

The climatic condition of the establishment of sanatoriums need not be elucidated. Localities free of fogs, strong winds and dust, in moderately elevated woody parts, or in the mountains or by the sea shore, have each their justification and their advantages.

For the rough seasons, localities are of course preferable, which to people from northern countries, a spring or summer season. That, especially at the right time, patients hardened against the changes in weather, may remain in "cold" regions during the winter is shown by experience. In southern health resorts, where in day time violent contrasts of temperature take place, patients injure themselves by carelessness more than in cold regions.

I will call attention here to a circumstance which is of the greatest importance.

Patients, dependent upon their labor, should not be discharged before they are capable to work, and their families should be assisted until the patient is fully restored to health.

If the patients are discharged too soon, relapse is risked, or the disabled fall into pauperism, vagabondage, alcoholism and become a greater burden on society.

Another important question is that of homesteads and who has to establish them.

Philanthropy and charitable societies may give the inducement and take the first steps. The obligation to erect them, however, rests upon the state authorities. The obligation to erect homesteads is parallel with that of establishing hospitals and insane asylums.

Philanthropy works with insufficient means; besides it uses the means at its disposal in a squandering way and deceives under self-consciousness praises, its work beyond the extent of its true value.

It must be also pointed out that poor patients should also be cared for by private nursing in families adapted for it, but under competent medical supervision, who should also be entrusted with the hygienic care and supervision. There could be cultivated institutions for private nursing families as it is done in the case of lunatics and foundlings.

Of a colony of such families a health resort could be developed.

We are and will remain for a long time in embarrassment what to do with our sick as long as we have to deal with infected hospitals, health resorts, unduly bad sanatoriums, in which, especially during the winter, influenza prevails, while other healing institutes are lacking or not found in sufficient numbers.

The distribution in qualified private families in the country might after all be quickest organized.

We will call attention to a source of relief at our disposal at this time.