

one we have. At last, though, Psychiatry has been free from the fetters which bound it, and it is now exactly on the same footing as the other departments of general medicine; and that being the case the medical man must learn to study the problems presented to him intelligently and broadly. He must adopt the clinical method of investigation, not because it is the best, for I believe that eventually a biological method even broader in its conception than the present mode will develop, but because this method affords us the most reasonable plan of studying any psychosis. At present the average physician thinks he has done his duty when he has certified that so and so is insane, and has informed the friends that under proper treatment the patient will recover. It may be a case of General Paresis in the early, or possibly the advanced stages. A few years ago General Paresis was rarely diagnosed by the average physician—shall I betray a secret—it was generally overlooked in several of our asylums. Dr. B. Hack Tuke, the eminent psychiatrist, was astounded at the want of knowledge displayed by the staffs in some of our institutions, and I fear I omitted to tell him the reason why both young and old on the staffs were so ignorant and so untrained. There can be no excuse, at the present time, for such want of knowledge, and I expect every medical student who passes through even the brief course on Psychiatry given at Toronto University, to make a fairly good diagnosis, and sensible prognosis, in the majority of cases of insanity. It is possible that we may teach him little, but the endeavour is to teach that little well. As perhaps the majority of you know, the modern method of classification is based very largely on prognosis, and while it is true that you may riddle many of the classifications with the small shot of criticism, yet if you take the trouble to reason the matter out, you will at least see that the scheme is a workable one, and can easily be remodelled as our knowledge increases. Then, too, in the past, while the most heart-breaking and brain-