

advantages to my mind are extensive. It promotes happiness, and gives one a far greater insight into the characteristics and behaviour of individuals. This latter knowledge is of considerable importance when consideration is being given to the possibility of recommending a discharge, or permitting of employment in the world either on licence or as a daily employee—a procedure which is being encouraged here.

Happiness is of paramount importance, if good work is to be obtained, as is anything which increases the knowledge of the individual peculiarities and traits of our charges. Faulty conduct in many cases results from faulty environment, bad examples, and no moral training generally, prior to admission. The primitive instincts in many defectives, no matter whether sexual, of acquisition, or of whatever nature, have never been schooled to inhibition, and yet many are unquestionably capable of improvement in behaviour and conduct. For these reasons I encourage the mixing of the sexes. By placing an inseparable barrier between them no inhibition of instincts is called for, and nothing in this direction is accomplished; let them see normal individuals conducting themselves (for the one hope of the mental defective to my mind is his power of imitation), and let them be put to the test, under supervision, where no harm can come, until they themselves learn by experience what should, had they been more fortunate, have been taught to them by their parents and others in healthy surroundings. Unquestionably to run an institution on such lines is a great responsibility and anxiety to the higher officials, more especially so with the majority of staff untrained or with fixed notions.

In the past we have all had to be greatly influenced by the opinion of the public, who, in ignorance, have been responsible for much cruelty and still are. Let us extend hospitality and help to them on every possible occasion, making friends, and by so doing win over their sympathies and increase their knowledge.

We have also been influenced by fear of failure, and still, I suppose, must be, yet I believe controlling authorities are all for advance in treatment on humane lines, and would willingly play their part in upholding any administrator who, with this object in view, found himself being severely criticized.

Most of our difficulties arising under the present *régime* do so, in my opinion, not because the system is at fault, but from conditions over which we have no control; money is short and accounts for the majority; staff has to be limited, and structural defects and requirements cannot always be dealt with. Our residents are being uninstitutionalized but are only gradually becoming so; experience goes to show that it is only a matter of time and organization.

In our first few months troublesome incidents were continuous; two hay-ricks, in different situations on the farm, were fired one afternoon, thatched shelters were burnt, false fire-alarms were numerous, work strikes organized, and a door which had been placed in a corridor and taken exception to knocked down by a trolley filled and pushed with boys, etc. However, I am glad to say this is past history, and though our incorrigible and unstable type of admissions has greatly been added to since, this state of affairs no longer exists, though the same amount of freedom is permitted. Absconders were naturally pretty numerous, but we have, comparatively speaking, few now, and these, in many instances, result from the relatives' connivance followed by concealment of their child. This, I regret to say, is still a difficult problem, since although proceedings in court can be and have been taken against the offenders, this is a most undesirable practice, leading to publicity of malicious statements and lies in local papers on the part of the defendants.

This article has been written by request. I do not pose as an authority on the care and control of the mentally defective, but merely relate my experiences, and, imbued with ideas born of an affection for the mentally afflicted, I strive at the Manor, Epsom, for advancement, trusting it to be in the right direction.

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#### EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

*London County Council.—The Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E. 5 (University of London).—Lectures and Practical Courses of Instruction (under the direction of Sir Frederick Mott, K.B.E., for a Diploma of Psychological Medicine. The eighth course will commence on January 6, 1925.*

Part I.—(1) Eight Lectures on the Anatomy of the Nervous System. By Sir Frederick Mott, K.B.E., LL.D., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., on Tuesdays at 2.30 p.m. commencing on January 6, 1925.

The evolution of the nervous system in the animal series. Physiological levels. Macroscopic and microscopic anatomy of the nervous system. The neurone concept; the projection, association and autonomic systems. Ultimate distribution of the cranial nerves, spinal nerve roots and sympathetic nerves. The meninges; cerebral arteries and their distribution; the intracranial venous and lymphatic systems. The congruence of structure and function in the brain. The congruence of experimental investigation with anatomical observation. The clinico-anatomical methods of investigating the functions of the central nervous system; spinal cord; medulla oblongata; pons; cerebellum; mesencephalon; basal ganglia; cerebral hemispheres. The cortex cerebri in relation to cerebral localization, including the cerebral mechanism of speech. The structure of the endocrine and reproductive organs.

Practical Instruction and Demonstrations. Demonstrator: Charles Geary. Macroscopic anatomy of the brain. Methods of staining nervous tissue and preparing it for microscopical examination. The living nerve-cell—the nerve-fibre. Degeneration and regeneration of nerves. Distribution of sections, illustrating the normal histology of the nervous system and the reproductive and endocrine glands, for mounting as a permanent collection.

(2) Eight lectures on the Physiology of the Nervous System. By F. Golla, M.D., F.R.C.P., Director of the Pathological Laboratory, Maudsley Hospital, on Fridays at 2.30 p.m., commencing on January 9, 1925.

Reflex action; co-ordination and proprioceptive system. Motor system, including muscle and nerve. Sensation; fatigue; localization and reference of sensation, normal and abnormal; special senses; mental work and fatigue; methods of investigation; physiology of the emotions; endocrinology; the autonomic system; action of alcohol and drugs; physiological chemistry; trophic and vegetative functions.

Practical Instruction and Demonstrations—Demonstrator: S. A. Mann, B.Sc. Lond., F.I.C. Physiological Chemistry: Chemistry of the nervous system, and cerebrospinal fluid; metabolism. Physico-chemical methods as applied to biochemical research. Blood and urine analysis—acidosis, uræmia, uric acid. Practical Physiology: Physical concomitants of emotion. Recording reflexes and tremors in man. Action of drugs on autonomic system. The study of reflex action in the spinal animal.

(3) Eight Lectures on Psychology. By Henry Devine, M.D., F.R.C.P., on Thursdays at 2.30 p.m., commencing on January 8, 1925.

Definition and scope of psychology; behaviour; adjustment; classification of responses; instinct; habit; thought; relation of mind to body; the psycho-physical organization as a biological unit; integration; methods of psychological investigation. Analysis and classification of modes of consciousness. Cognition; sensation; perception; imagination; memory; association; judgment. Conation; attention; volition. Affection; emotion; mood; sentiment. Personality; temperament; character. Sleep; dreams; suggestion; hypnosis; dissociation. Illusion; hallucination; delusions; disorders of attention. Fatigue; effects of drugs on reactions.

Practical Instruction and Demonstrations.—Sensation; psycho-physical methods; statistical methods; reaction times; association; memory; intelligence tests; muscular and mental work.

Part II will follow in April, 1925, and will include lectures and demonstrations. A detailed time-table will be issued later.

Posts as voluntary clinical assistants at the Maudsley Hospital may be granted without fee to practitioners of both sexes specializing in psychological medicine. These appointments can be either for whole or part-time work in wards, out-patient department or laboratories as desired. They can be held in conjunction with attendance at either part of the course for the Diploma in Psychological Medicine. Such an appointment will satisfy the requirements of the various examining bodies in respect of clinical experience of mental disorders for the Diploma in Psychological Medicine or for the M.D. in Psychological Medicine; its necessary duration depends on whether it is whole or part time. There are various other opportunities for clinical study, also without fee, to all attending the course. Applications and

inquiries regarding these clinical facilities should be made to the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital.

Fees : For the whole course of Parts I and II, £15 15s. ; for Part I separately, £10 10s. ; for Part II separately, £10 10s. ; for one single series of lectures in Part I, £4 4s. ; for one single series of lectures in Part II, £2 2s.

Inquiries as to Lectures, etc., should be addressed to "The Director of the Pathological Laboratory," Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E. 5.

*The National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, W.C. 1.*—Syllabus of Post-Graduate Course, February 2 to March 27, 1925.

The Course will consist of the following subjects : (1) Out-patient Clinics, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 2 p.m. ; (2) Clinical Lectures and Demonstrations, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 3.30 p.m. ; (3) Lectures on the Anatomy and Physiology of the Nervous System (if sufficient applicants), Mondays, 12 noon ; (4) Lectures on the Pathology of the Nervous System, Thursdays, 12 noon ; (5) Clinical Demonstrations on Methods of Examination (if sufficient applicants), Tuesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. ; (6) Lectures and Demonstrations on the Neurology of the Eye, Mondays and Wednesdays, 3.30 p.m.

For further information apply to J. G. GREENFIELD, *Dean of Medical School.*

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#### ROYAL COMMISSION ON LUNACY LAW AND ADMINISTRATION (ENGLAND AND WALES).

The Royal Commission on Lunacy Law and Administration commenced its sittings at Old Palace Yard, Westminster, on Tuesday, October 7, 1924. The first witnesses examined were Sir Frederick Willis, Mr. S. J. Fraser Macleod, *K.C.*, and Dr. C. Hubert Bond, of the Board of Control.

Sittings have continued since, but it is not expected that the Commission will be able to conclude its labours for some months.

We do not propose to report *in extenso* the proceedings, excellent summaries of which are appearing in the *Lancet* and *British Medical Journal*, but in due course a summary will appear in our pages of all material evidence and also the findings of the Commission.

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#### OBITUARY.

ARTHUR HILL TREVOR, Barrister-at-Law,  
Commissioner of the Board of Control.

MR. ARTHUR H. TREVOR, besides his wide and active participation in the work of the Board of Control and his unremitting efforts to ameliorate the conditions and to advance the treatment of persons suffering from mental illness, took such a friendly and helpful interest in the welfare of the Medico-Psychological Association that the news of his sudden and altogether unexpected death, which occurred in his sleep during the night of the 27th and 28th of last September at a shooting lodge at Elvanfoot in Lanarkshire, came as a painful shock ; and, despite the interval that has elapsed, it is still difficult to realize that he has gone from our midst. By his death the Commissioners are deprived of a colleague of great personality, who was highly esteemed as a friend by each one of them.

Born in 1858, the only son of Charles Binney Trevor (an Indian Civil Servant), he was educated at Winchester and at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He was in those days a well-known cricketer—indeed, a famous bat. And, as sporting and athletic instincts formed an important element in his character and often enabled him to find a coign of vantage in dealing with patients who would otherwise have maintained an attitude of reserve, it is fitting that they should find at least an allusion in any outline of his life and work. His prowess at cricket is delightfully recited in the *Morning Post* of September 30 last : A member of the Winchester eleven of 1877 and of the Oxford elevens of 1880–81, he also in the years 1880–84 played for Sussex, and scored a century on his first appearance for the county in the match at Brighton against Kent ; those were the days in 'Varsity cricket when, to secure a place, meant a great deal more