

BURMAH.

The report is for the year 1926, and deals with the working of (1) the mental hospital of St. John's Road, Rangoon, (2) the new mental hospital at Tadagale, Rangoon, and (3) the temporary mental hospital at Minbu. These are the hospitals for mental disease that serve a country with an area roughly about four times the size of England and Wales, and a population, mainly agricultural, of approximately 13,000,000. The total accommodation at the three hospitals was 930—that for males being 658 and females 272. The average population during the year at Rangoon and Minbu was 846 males and 135 females.

During the year there were 234 admissions to the Rangoon Mental Hospital (to which most of the new cases go), and the largest number of these were of the coolie and cultivator class. The recovery-rate for the year was 12·4%, calculated on the admissions.

Of the etiological factors amongst the admissions, insane heredity was only established in a comparatively few cases; in a considerable proportion of cases toxic agents were considered to be either a predisposing or exciting cause, the chief being alcohol and *cannabis indica*, with opium and cocaine taking a secondary place. Syphilis and tuberculosis were considered ætiological factors of importance in many cases.

One case of cholera was correctly diagnosed on admission, and the infection did not spread, all the patients in the hospital having been inoculated with anti-cholera vaccine shortly before.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

The Federated Malay States proper, namely, Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang, occupy an area of about 27,000 square miles, or rather less than half the size of England and Wales, and have a mixed population of Eurasians, Europeans and Americans, Indians, Chinese and Malays (in the proportions respectively of 1, 2, 100, 150, 160). It is from this population that the Central Mental Hospital, Tanjong Rambutan, mainly receives its patients, though it also receives from the Crown Colony of Singapore and the Protected States of Kedah and Kelantan. The total number of patients remaining in the hospital on December 31, 1926, was 2,021 (M., 1,550; F., 471); the percentage of recoveries for the year was 32·1 and that of deaths 6·6. The total number of States patients admitted during the year was 644 (M., 489; F., 155), the largest number ever admitted; Dr. Samuels attributes this partly to increase of the general population, and partly to the more enlightened knowledge of the people.

Primary dementia easily heads the list of forms of mental disease on admission, and this chiefly amongst the Chinese section of the population:

“ Seeing that the classification of mental disease is not yet all that one would like to see it, we cannot place too much reliance on the primary dementia figure, as the personal equation is, as things are at present, very prone to have an undue