

accounted for about 7 *per cent.* of the admissions. In 30 *per cent.* of all admitted hereditary predisposition was traced.

*Some English Hospitals.*

*Barnwood.*—We are most glad to read that out of the favourable surplus of income no less a sum than £4671 has been appropriated to increasing the Pension Fund, which now stands at the value of £17,000. Nothing can react more strongly on the care of the patients and the general progress of the institution than such a pledge to the future. The rating authorities have suddenly raised the ratable value of the hospital from £807 to £2030. Remonstrance succeeded in reducing the latter sum to £1800, with which, of course, the Committee are not satisfied, and they will appeal again. The extra amount of rates thus imposed would probably suffice to keep two patients. Dr. Soutar mentions a case which recovered after five years' illness. No improvement was seen till many stumps had been extracted and replaced by artificial teeth. After that she never looked back.

*Bethlem.*—The number of admissions exceeded the average population, and no less than 43 *per cent.* of those admissions were on urgency orders. This was a substantial increase on the 28 *per cent.* of the preceding years, and resulted from the unusual number of acute cases requiring immediate treatment. Forty-five voluntary patients were admitted, and in the course of the year twenty of this class had to be certified. Rather more than one third of the admissions had been previously insane, and just about two thirds were recent cases of active melancholia and mania.

*Wonford House.*—It is satisfactory to read that the Committee can report their being satisfied that the institution is in a thoroughly sound condition, and that steady progress is being made. Of the 131 patients 47 paid less than the actual cost of maintenance, while 16 others paid less than the average income. The benefaction thus rendered is termed "assistance," which is far pleasanter and truer than "charity." The latter rather implies active monetary goodwill on the part of someone, which is not exercisable in unendowed hospitals, since the means of assistance can only be found in the excess payments of richer patients. The recovery rate was unfortunately lower than it had been for thirty years, but, as Dr. Deas points out, only thirteen out of the thirty-seven presented any hope of recovery on admission. Three out of twenty male admissions were attributed to sexual excess, but only one to alcoholic intemperance.

*Some Scotch District Asylums.*

*Inverness.*—On the advice of Dr. Keay the District Board made a determined effort in the direction of "boarding out," with the result that sixty-five were removed in last year. Only seven were returned as unsuitable. The inconveniences of having one hall for eating, recreation, and public worship are commented on, and it is somewhat surprising to read that two halls were originally provided for the latter purposes, but