

carried out by the late Dr. Manning in Australia, and have been advocated by the Medico-Psychological Association for many years past, and are deserving of the heartiest support. Whether they will be carried out in an economical and efficient manner remains to be seen, but there is such great advantage to be reaped from them that it would more than counterbalance very considerable economic errors.

This Bill will have the fullest consideration of the Parliamentary Committee, and comment on the details is therefore unnecessary. It is, however, desirable to remind our readers that in past years attempts have been made to establish so-called hospitals for mental diseases under the direction of physicians whose experience had been in neurology and not in morbid psychology. The clauses relating to the appointment of medical officers give no direct enlightenment on this point, but the fact that the institutions are under the supervision of the Commissioners in Lunacy and under the laws applying to County Asylums is probably a sufficient safeguard against any renewal of this attempted exploitation.

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*The President-Elect.*

In the report of the proceedings of the quarterly meeting at York omission was made of the election of the new President-elect, necessitated by the retirement (and subsequent death) of Sir John Sibbald, whose portrait we publish with this issue of the Journal.

Dr. Outterson Wood, who was unanimously elected to the vacancy thus created, has long worked for the Association in many ways, and in thus filling the breach has added another important service to the long list already standing to his credit.

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*The Horton Scandal.*

This well-worn topic appears to be assuming the character of a hardy perennial in our pages, although in the records of the London County Council it seems to have put on a cryptogamic character, since a careful search has not discovered the

smallest sign of fructification, if the Report of a committee of inquiry may be thus fancifully described.

A large majority of the London County Council describes itself as Progressive, a term which in its vague indefiniteness is very characteristic of popular catch-words. It eludes all description of the speed, direction, or means of progression, and has already received some criticism on this score. Political critics have asserted that the progress was all to one side (or party)—latero-progression, in fact, or in the vernacular “crab-like.” Economists have asserted that the progress was directly downward to the deepest depths of the Hades of debt. Viewing their action in this particular matter of report-burking from a moral plane, it appears to be not merely retro-progression, but to be backwards and downwards—progress, in fact, that is most aptly described by that good old English expression “backsliding.”

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*The Tent Treatment of the Insane.*

In these days, when the popular idea of the provision of accommodation for the insane and tuberculous seems to be limited to the erection of the most substantial, complex, and costly structures that the architectural mind can devise, it is a relief to read of treatment in a climate much more rigorous than our own being conducted under canvas.

The Report of the Manhattan State Asylum records that for three years camp treatment for the tuberculous insane has been carried out *throughout the whole year*, while camps for demented and uncleanly men, for feeble and decrepit women, for convalescents employed indoors, and for patients confined to bed for concurrent diseases, have been found advantageous for considerable periods of the year.

If this system of treatment can be carried out to such an extent in the climate of Manhattan, with its extreme vicissitudes of heat and cold, it would seem possible that much more might be done in our more temperate country with some gain to the pockets of the charitable and the ratepayer and much advantage to the recovery rate of the insane.

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