

*Superannuation Allowances in Scottish District and Parochial Asylums.*

That officers and servants of the Scottish district and parochial asylums should be utterly shut out from all superannuation allowances is an almost incredible anomaly. Public servants throughout Great Britain are generally provided for in this way, and very few of them can claim it on the ground of having duties that are in any respect so anxious, responsible, or dangerous. Asylum workers should be the first and not the last to be thus provided for.

The discussion on this subject at the Glasgow Divisional Meeting in March, and the memorial addressed to Lord Balfour by the Parliamentary Committee, will, we hope, draw the attention of the responsible authorities to this glaring injustice.

The injustice to the asylum workers, however great, is probably the least of the evil, for the inmates of these asylums must suffer indirectly from the difficulty of obtaining and retaining a satisfactory staff. This has been frequently pointed out in the annual reports of the Scottish Commissioners, but hitherto without the result of even a Parliamentary proposition.

Legislation, it is well to remember, is not carried either by justice or necessity, but by the numbers, noise, and persistence of the advocates. We are not numerous, are not hysterical enough to yell effectively, and so must rely on patient persistence. The Association should never cease from its efforts in persuading the Houses of Parliament to redress this grievance.

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*The Department for Mental Diseases at the Albany Hospital.*

The report of the first year's work of the pavilion (F) for mental diseases at the Albany Hospital is now to hand, and appears to offer every encouragement for the extension of the hospital treatment of mental diseases.

One hundred and seventy-three cases were admitted during the year, of whom 57 recovered, 53 improved, 43 did not improve, 6 died, and 14 remained at the end of the year. Of the improved and unimproved, 41 were transferred to the State Hospitals for the Insane, and of these, 20 were transferred in the first week,