

The latter is partly explained by unequal adequacy of provision made, and by the attraction to certain States of young, virile workers. **B. Mental defectives not counted under A:** These number 40,519 (20,123 male and 20,396 female). In spite of great increase the numbers are still too inadequate to the need to give an indication of the incidence among the population. **C. Epileptics not comprised under A:** These number 14,937, *viz.*, 7,939 males and 6,998 females. **D. Inebriates (alcoholic and other drug addicts) not included under A:** The figures are of interest in relation to the Restrictive and Prohibition Acts. The numbers on January 1st were—in 1917, 4,891; in 1918, 3,565; in 1920, 1,971. In 1920 these comprised 1,163 alcoholics (6 males to 1 female), of whom over half came from 5 of the 48 States, while 10 States reported no alcoholics in institutions. All State hospitals for inebriates have now been closed. *Patients absent from institutions, but still on the books*, numbered 18,268. Parole laws differ in different States, the period varying from 30 days to 2 years. Some States have a well-organised system of after-care and supervision under the direction of social workers, while others exercise no supervision over patients on parole.

MARJORIE E. FRANKLIN.

*Decline of Alcohol and Drugs as Causes of Mental Disease. (Mental Hygiene, January, 1921.) Pollock, H. M.*

The data for this paper are furnished by the Bureau of Statistics of the New York State Hospital Commission, and include returns from 13 State hospitals. Only first admissions—*i.e.*, to any institution for mental disease—are considered. First admissions and the alcoholic ratio were both abnormally high in the war year 1917, while for part of the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1920, the Prohibition Amendment was in force. Excluding 1917, (a) the ratio of first admissions to 100,000 of the population increased steadily from 58·6 in 1909 to 67·3 in 1918, and fell to 66·3 in 1919 and 1920; (b) the alcoholic psychosis fell gradually from 10·8 *per cent.* of first admissions in 1909 to 5·2 *per cent.* in 1918, and was 4 *per cent.* in 1919 and 1·9 *per cent.* in 1920; (c) the intemperate use of alcohol among first admissions without alcoholic psychosis was returned as 28·7 *per cent.* in 1910, 16·2 *per cent.* in 1918, 14·2 *per cent.* in 1919 and 12·2 *per cent.* in 1920. Mental disease due to drugs, always low in the hospitals of this State, has not increased, and was 0·2 *per cent.* in 1920. MARJORIE E. FRANKLIN.

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## Part IV.—Notes and News.

### THE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

#### EIGHTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE EIGHTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association was held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, July 12th to 15th, 1921, at the house of the Royal Society of Medicine, London, under the presidency, in the early proceedings, of Dr. W. F. Menzies, F.R.C.P., and later that of Dr. C. Hubert Bond, C.B.E., F.R.C.P.