

sary, gives a certificate of insanity. Over the first district Dr. Jules Morel, of the Hospice Guislain, Ghent, presides. Dr. Masoni, Professor in the University of Louvain, and Dr. Semal, Medical Director of the Asylum at Mons, have charge of the other two districts.

We are glad to find that Belgian enlightenment has resulted in such a decided step of advance towards realizing the ideal method of at once safeguarding the proper interests of the insane, and securing the disciplinary correction of criminal impostors. We have always felt that the insanity of the criminal ought to be duly regarded and attended to, just as the insanity of the non-criminal. Cerebral pathology and medical experience are not bounded by social proscription; and wherever disease, mental or otherwise, manifests itself, the physician must proclaim his presence and declare his authority. In officially recognizing this authority, the Belgian Government have done excellent service to the cause of mental medicine, and at the same time to the best interests of humanity. No doubt there must ever be difficulties in carrying out such a scheme as that which has been inaugurated by the Belgians; but a well-placed experience in this direction cannot fail to result in a gain of knowledge which must ultimately be of much practical benefit, both psychologically and socially. The district commissioners who have been appointed to carry out this scheme are physicians of acknowledged eminence and repute, and we are quite sure that in their hands the new service will be most judiciously and successfully administered.

Pensions and Pension Scales.

The following are instances of the inequality and uncertainty of pensions granted to Medical Superintendents both under the old and the new régime. The Table appended cannot fail to be useful.

I. Under the Old Régime of County Magistrates.

(1.) North Riding of Yorks.—Dr. Hill, 56 years of age, with 20 years' service, received in 1868 two-thirds of salary only (excluding allowances which were not considered in the calculation), or under one-half of the total value of office.

(2.) Oxfordshire.—Dr. Ley, in 1868, at 61 years of age, for 23 years' service, only received one-third of total value of office, a larger amount having been recommended by the Committee, but reduced by Quarter Sessions.

(3.) Lancashire.—Dr. Broadhurst, 63 years of age, with an excellent record of 33½ years' service, received in 1876 a pension of less than one-half; whilst Dr. Holland, 65 years of age, with 28 years' service, being 5½ years less than Dr. Broadhurst, received in 1878 the maximum pension of two-thirds.

(4.) Lincolnshire.—Dr. Palmer, in February, 1888, at 70 years of age, with the lengthened and champion record of 39 years' service, received one-half of total value of office, the amount, £600 (nearly two-thirds), recommended by the Committee having been reduced by Quarter Sessions to £500.

(5.) Dorset.—Dr. J. G. Symes, 61 years of age, with a lengthened and excellent record of 32 years' service, received in 1887 a pension of one-half the total value of office, the amount of £600 (two-thirds) recommended by the Committee having been reduced to £500 by Quarter Sessions.

II. *Under the New Régime of County Councils.*

(1.) Lancashire.—Dr. T. L. Rogers, 60 years of age, with a long and exemplary record of 30½ years' service, received in 1889 a pension of one-half the total value of office, the amount, £800 (two-thirds), recommended by the Committee having been reduced to £600.

(2.) London County Council.—Dr. W. G. Marshall's pension of two-thirds, recommended by Colney Hatch Asylum Committee, was opposed and objected to by the County Council in March, 1890, but was, after discussion, ultimately granted; whilst a similar pension of two-thirds (well earned and deserved), which was recommended by Hanwell Asylum Committee, was granted by the same County Council in November, 1891, without a word of objection or a murmur, to Mr. J. Peeke Richards, who is 20 years younger and has put in 15 years less service.

(3.) Yorkshire (South Yorkshire Asylum, Wadsley).—A pension of two-thirds recommended by the Committee to the Male Head Attendant for 33 years' service, was referred back to the Committee for reduction, being considered excessive, but returned to the Finance Committee as originally proposed, and ultimately passed by the County Council on 14th January, 1892.

West Riding.—A report of the West Riding General Asylums Committee on the question of pensions or superannuation allowances to asylum officers, signed by W. Spencer Stanhope, chairman, and dated 24th September, 1891, recommending a scale of

pensions, was submitted to the West Riding County Council and rejected by a very narrow majority.

The scale suggested in this report is almost the same as that adopted by the West Riding Standing Joint Committee for Ordinary Pensions to Police Constables, that "pensions to officers, attendants, nurses, and servants hereafter to be engaged be calculated on the basis of one-fiftieth of their annual salary and emoluments on the average of the last three years, for every completed year of service."

It was also recommended—"That a scale be prepared showing what sum shall be deemed to be the value of the emoluments of each person, for the purpose of calculating pensions."

The report further recommends that asylum officials be divided into two classes, the first class, including those who are brought more immediately in contact with the insane, to be entitled to pensions; the second class, including those officers and servants not directly engaged in the medical and moral treatment of the insane, such as clerk and steward, storekeeper, clerk of works, gardeners, artisans, and labourers, "shall not receive pensions on retirement unless owing to being injured by a patient whilst in the actual execution of duty, or to such other inevitable accident of similar character as shall in the opinion of the Committee render it just that a pension be granted."

The report contains, in Appendix A, a "memorandum of the West Riding solicitors as to the power of the County Council to grant or withhold pensions or superannuation allowances to asylum officers," prepared by Williams and Edwards, West Riding solicitors, dated 26th March, 1891.

Appendix B contains a summary of replies to questions asked of all county asylum authorities in England and Wales respecting pensions to asylum officers.

Appendix C contains three tables showing the number of officers, attendants, etc., with length of service, the number of retirements, and particulars of pensions granted.

This is the most detailed and probably one of the best reports yet issued on the question of pensions to asylum officers.

(4.) Staffordshire.—A pension of £26 a year recommended by the Asylum Committee to an old man, Noah Wigley, 71 years of age, who after 31 years' service was unable to work owing to bodily infirmity, met with opposition at the County Council meeting in February, 1892, but, after discussion, it was eventually granted.

(5.) Northamptonshire County Asylum, Berry Wood.—An ably drawn-up and liberal pension scheme, signed by Earl Spencer (chairman), was approved by the County Council on 30th January, 1890.

It divides asylum officials into two classes (Schedule A and Schedule B) as in the West Riding scheme.

The chief rules are the following:—

- 1st. "That any official of 50 years of age, named in Schedule A, may retire after 15 years' service on a pension not less than one-third, and not more than one-half of his salary and allowance."
- 2nd. "That any official eligible as above who shall remain in the service shall receive an addition to the pension at the rate of not less than one-fiftieth and not more than one-twenty-fifth of his salary and allowance for every year of service after the age of 50 years and not less than 15 years' service at that age. No pension can exceed two-thirds of salary and allowances."
- 3rd. "That resignation shall be optional at the age of 50."
- 4th. "That it shall be compulsory at 55."

(6.) Middlesex. County Council Asylum, near Tooting.—The superannuation allowances scale (as per "Extract from Standing Orders") of this County Council divides asylum officers and servants into two classes:—

1. "Those in whose favour emoluments may be taken into consideration in the calculation of the allowance, one-fortieth of the salary or wages and net emoluments for every year served, the minimum of service being 15 years, and the maximum of allowance twenty-six-fortieths of the salary or wages and net emoluments."
2. "Officers and servants in whose favour emoluments may not be taken into consideration in the calculation of the allowances, one-thirtieth of the salary or wages for every year served, the minimum being 10 years, and the maximum allowances twenty-thirtieths of the salary or wages."

The question of framing a fixed and uniform pension scale for County Council officials might well engage the attention of the County Councils Association.*

* We are indebted to Dr. Murray Lindsay for these particulars and for the Tabular Statement which follows.—[Eds.]

LIST OF PENSIONS granted to MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENTS

Asylums.	Name of Medical Supt.	Age on Retirement.	Length of Service.	Total Value of Office, including Allowances.	Amount of Pension granted.
1. Kent, Barming Heath	Dr. Poynder	Over 50	13	£ 400 0 0	£ 150 0 0
2. Chester	Dr. Le Jones	63	25	300 0 0	300 0 0
3. Gloucester	Dr. W. Williams	60	17	800 0 0	300 0 0
4. Kent, Barming Heath	Dr. Huxley	Over 50	17	500 0 0	350 0 0
5. Cambridge	Dr. Lawrence	37	7	—	50 0 0
6. Oxfordshire	Dr. Ley	61	23	750 0 0	250 0 0
7. North Riding, Yorks	Dr. Hill	58	20	1200 0 0	533 6 8
8. Somerset	Dr. R. Boyd	59	21	800 0 0	450 0 0
9. Derby County	Dr. Hitchman	60	21	800 0 0	400 0 0
10. Hanwell, Middlesex	Dr. Begley	71	34	700 0 0	466 13 4
11. Three Counties, Beds, Herts, and Hunts	Dr. Denne	67	20½	750 0 0	500 0 0
12. North Wales, Denbigh	Dr. G. Turner Jones	54	27	500 0 0	350 0 0
13. Suffolk	Dr. J. Kirkman	81	45	1000 0 0	600 0 0
14. Lancaster	Dr. Broadhurst	63	32½	800 0 0	300 0 0
15. Kent, Barming Heath	Dr. W. Kirkman	Under 50	12	900 0 0	400 0 0
16. Lanc., Prestwich and Whittingham	Dr. Holland	65	28	1125 0 0	750 0 0
17. Staffordshire, Burntwood	Dr. Davis	46	22	750 0 0	250 0 0
18. Colney Hatch, Middlesex	Dr. Sheppard	63	20	900 0 0	450 0 0
19. Surrey, Brookwood	Dr. Brushfield	54	16	1300 0 0	700 0 0
20. Gloucester	Dr. E. Toller	52	19	1025 0 0	550 0 0
21. Joint Counties, Monmouth, &c.	Dr. McCullough	54	25½	1100 0 0	750 0 0
22. Hants, Fareham	Dr. Manley	60	30½	1250 0 0	800 0 0
23. Berkshire, Moulsoford	Dr. Gilland	48	16½	800 0 0	400 0 0
24. Norfolk, Thorpe	Dr. Hills	58	25	900 0 0	600 0 0
25. Staffordshire, Stafford	Dr. W. T. Pater	52	Nearly 13	950 0 0	300 0 0
26. Dorset, Dorchester	Dr. J. G. Symes	61	32	900 0 0	450 0 0
27. Sussex, Haywards Heath	Dr. S. W. D. Williams	48	22	1200 0 0	500 0 0
28. Lincolnshire, Bracebridge	Dr. Palmer	70	39	1000 0 0	500 0 0
29. S. Riding, Yorks, Wadale	Dr. S. Mitchell	50	21	1200 0 0	500 0 0
30. Hanwell, Middlesex	Dr. Rayner	46	16	950 0 0	300 0 0
31. Bristol, Borough	Dr. Stephens	65	10	500 0 0	250 0 0
32. City of London, Dartford	Dr. Jenson	55	23	1200 0 0	800 0 0
33. Royal India Asylum, Ealing	Dr. Christie	About 60	22	1150 0 0	520 0 0
34. Surrey, Wandsworth	Dr. Biggs	60½	30	1450 0 0	974 0 0
35. Lancashire, Rainhill	Dr. T. L. Rogers	60	30½	1200 0 0	600 0 0
36. Colney Hatch, London Cty. Council	Dr. W. G. Marshall	71	38	950 0 0	633 6 8
37. Hanwell, London County Council	Dr. J. P. Richards	51	23	1000 0 0	633 6 8
38. Kent, Chartham	Dr. Spencer	57	31	1050 0 0	633 6 8

Average age on retirement, 57 years.

Average length of service, 23 years.

Average amount of pension nearly £500 (£276 8s. 5d.).

Of the total number, 38, pensioned, 16, being nearly one-half, received the maxi-

received one-third or under, for short services of under 15 years, and under 50

It is worthy of note that of the last 5 Superintendents pensioned by County

In addition to the above-named 38 Supts., three have received pensions, viz., Dr.

kindly gave particulars of their Pensions, but "not for publication," and—

Ipswich Borough Asylum ...	Dr. Long	37	7	500 0 0	100 0 0
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OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH ASYLUMS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

Proportion of Pension to Total Value of Office.	By whom and when granted.	Remarks.
Little over a third Maximum two-thirds	Committee of Visitors, 1851 " " 1854	Dr. Poynder was the first Supt. Was non-resident, only visiting asylum once a week; also had a large private practice in Chester.
Little over a third Maximum two-thirds	" " 1862 Quarter Sessions, 1864 " " 1867	Retired in ill health. "Granted for 12 years should he live so long." Died in about 18 months or 2 years.
A third	" " 1868	Larger amount recommended by Committee but reduced at Qr. Sessions. Two-thirds of salary only.
Nearly one-half Little over one-half One-half Maximum two-thirds	" " 1868 " " 1870 " " 1871 " " 1872	
Maximum two-thirds Maximum two-thirds Under two-thirds, = three-fifths Less than half Under one-half	" " 1874 " " Oct. 1874 " " 1876 " " 1876 " " 1876	
Maximum two-thirds A third One-half Nearly two-thirds of £1100 Over half, = fifty-three per cent. Maximum two-thirds Maximum two-thirds One-half Maximum two-thirds Nearly a third One-half	" " 1878 " " 1880 " " 1881 " " 1882 " " 1882 " " 1883 " " 1885 " " Jan. 1887 " " 1887 " " Ap. 1887 " " Ap. 1887	£600 recommended, reduced by Quarter Sessions to £450.
Under one-half One-half	" " 1888 " " Feb. 1888	£600 recommended, reduced by Quarter Sessions to £500.
5-12ths, = nearly one-half	" " Oct. 1888	16½ years as Supt., 4½ years as A.M.O. Pension calculated at the rate of 1-50th of salary and emoluments for each year's service.
Under half of salary only One-half Maximum two-thirds About one-half Maximum two-thirds One-half	Mid. Quarter Sessions, Nov., 1888 Town Council City of London Corpn., 1887 Dec., 1891 Mid. Cty. Council, Jan., 1889 Lanc. Cty. Council, 27 Mch., 1889	Granted according to no rule or scale.
Maximum two-thirds Maximum two-thirds Maximum two-thirds	London Cty. Council, Mch., 1890 " " 10 Nov., 1891 County Council, 17 Feb., 1892	Amount of £800 (£) recommended by Committee was reduced by County Council to £600. 19 years as Supt., 4 years as A.M.O. 17 years as Supt., 14 years as A.M.O. Pension calculated on salary of £300 (and allowances) prior to increase of salary to £900 a few months previously

imum of two-thirds, 16 received one-half, or nearly one-half; and the remaining 6 years of age, having retired in ill health.

Councils, 4 received the maximum of two-thirds, and 1 received one-half.

Wickham, Newcastle Borough Asylum, and Dr. Orange, Broadmoor Asylum, who

One-fifth.

Town Council, 1877

Pension granted for 10 years should he survive. Only lived one year.