

Sir James Crichton-Browne in his eloquent speech reminds us that he first attacked the problem of tuberculosis in asylums in 1883. In the intervening years much knowledge has accumulated, and the scientific position has been fortified till it is now impregnable. It is not sufficient for us, however, to hold that position. The country is astir with hopes of relief from the intolerable assaults of a wide-spread and deadly foe. Now is the time to range ourselves with those who have already entered on a vigorous campaign, with the augury of a successful issue.

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*Pensions.*

We are informed that the Parliamentary Committee has followed up the ideas expressed at the Annual Meeting, in the discussion of the report it then brought up. A communication has been sent to the County Councils Association, and is receiving attention at the hands of that important body. We know that the Lord Chancellor is in favour of a pension scheme, and if a satisfactory one can be arranged with the County Councils Association, we may look forward to the time when asylum authorities can go into the employment market with offers of pecuniary conditions equal to those now made by other services. We cannot too urgently ask each superintendent to furnish any information required for the guidance and assistance of the Parliamentary Committee.

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*The Sale of Intoxicating Liquors.*

The final Report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the operation and administration of the laws relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors is now published, and contains much that is of interest to the members of our specialty, who probably see more of the extreme evils of intemperance than any other class of the medical profession. We can, however, allude only to a few of the more important of the many far-reaching suggestions contained in the Report.

“Simple drunkenness,” apart from disorder, the Commission proposes “should be liable to arrest.” Their recommendation,