

the course of years there will then be room for either modifying terms or for benevolence to deserving cases. The word "profit" should not be heard in connection with the enterprise.

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*The Report on the Dieting of Pauper Lunatics in Scotland.*

One of the most important and valuable documents that has ever been issued in connection with the institutional treatment of insanity is the *Report on the Dieting of Pauper Lunatics in Asylums and Lunatic Wards of Poor-houses in Scotland*, by Dr. J. C. Dunlop. It is issued as a supplement to the forty-third Annual Report of the Scottish Commissioners.

The results of the investigation, planned and carried out in a thoroughly scientific and practical manner, must have a wide-reaching influence on the dietaries of the insane, not only in Great Britain, but in other countries.

Whatever criticism may be advanced in regard to details of the estimation of dietetic values, etc., there can be no doubt that these closely approximate to the truth, there being found to be a close correspondence between the estimated values of diets and the general nutrition of the patients.

The few exceptions in which a diet of low nutritional value is found to correspond with an average nutritional weight of the patients will probably be found to be accounted for by exceptional or unrecorded supplies of food, or possibly by exceptionally good preparation of the food, and, indeed, to be exceptions which help to prove the rule.

The suggestions for ensuring the proper feeding of pauper insane patients, with which Dr. Dunlop concludes his report correspond very closely with the principles that have long been followed in most of the best asylum dietaries, but it is of distinct importance to have these principles confirmed on a scientific basis, as given in this Report.

A detailed criticism of the Report has yet to be written, but the Scottish Lunacy Commission is to be congratulated on having undertaken a most important piece of work, which has long needed attention, and on having entrusted its execution to the care of so able and competent an investigator as Dr. Dunlop.