

and I will make a million—ten millions—to-day. But I cannot move without the consent of the Queen to marry me. Every man will have as many wives as he likes. The Lord told me the reason; and there will be no doctors. I shall have a thousand of the most beautiful women, and if a man takes a fancy to any of them he will have to pay me what I like, and all the money will go to the benefit of our glorious Empire. You should have seen how pleased my mother was. The Lord said to me, "You will see the Silver Moon." Everything was silver and gold and diamonds, and everyone was happy. Every morning at half-past five all the little children were examined by God. I can read a man's character well. I can read yours. You are a very honourable gentleman; I know almost every incident in your life. I am just going to Windsor now. Will you gentlemen (addressing some gentlemen in court) have a Silver Moon luncheon with me. Charlie, old fellow, here is £5000 for you. George, I will make a Cabinet Minister of you. I have been honourable to my foster-sister. Go and get yourself dressed. Go to the Army and Navy Stores, and get yourself £1000 worth of clothes. This man (pointing to another person) is one of the best fishmongers in London.

Mr. Marsham: Yes. You may go now.

Prisoner: Good-bye and God bless you. I cannot move my arms until I have seen my Queen.

After R— had left the court, Mr. E. B. Norman, stage manager at Daly's Theatre, informed the magistrate that R— had been in Mr. George Edwardes's employ for about sixteen months. He had been on tour, but came up to town to get a divorce from his wife, and it had unsettled his mind, as he was generally a very sober, steady man. If he got better Mr. Edwardes would be glad to find him employment again.

Mr. Marsham said that he was glad to hear this. In the meantime the man would be sent to the workhouse to be dealt with as a lunatic.

ASYLUM NEWS.

ABERDEEN DISTRICT ASYLUM.

Tenders have now been invited for the new asylum to be erected by the Aberdeen City District Lunacy Board at Kingston, Newmachar, at a probable cost of £100,000. The site is convenient to the railway, and slopes to the south in front of a well-wooded rising ground. The asylum is designed on the model of Alt Scherbitz, and there will be in all twenty-seven separate buildings occupying a site of about thirty acres. The rest of the estate will be utilised for farm, garden, and recreation ground. The buildings are arranged in three sections—medical, industrial, and general. In the medical section there are eight separate buildings, as follows:—(1) An hospital divided into separate wings for physically sick, infirm, and recent acute mental cases; (2) an isolation ward for suspected cases of infectious diseases; (3) two observation villas; (4) two closed asylums; and (5) two convalescent hospitals. The industrial section consists of six villas—three for males, and three for females—accommodating from thirty to forty persons in each. Villa No. 1 is intended for workers who are untrustworthy owing to restless habits, delusions, or want of intelligence. Villa No. 2 is for patients able to work, who require somewhat less day supervision than the former class. Villa No. 3 is for working patients requiring a minimum of day supervision and no night supervision.

The general section consists of twelve separate buildings, viz. administrative offices and Board room, kitchen and stores, laundry, boiler house, workshops, houses for nurses and female servants, medical superintendent's residence, steward's house, lodges for gardener and engineer, cottages for married attendants, greenhouses, recreation hall, and mortuary. Accommodation is provided for 550 persons, and it is proposed that future extension should be met by the erection of extra villas from time to time as required. In view of this, the central buildings have been made large enough to suit an asylum of 700 patients.

The steam supply is to be sufficient, not only for driving the machinery of the laundry and workshops and for the production of electricity, but also for steam heating, hot water supply, cooking, etc. The outlying villas are to be served by

separate local boilers. It was at first contemplated to have only one central source of hot supply, but the architect found that this would be too costly, owing to the great distances which separate some of the buildings. There is no general dining hall. The patients will dine in the separate villas, their meals being sent from the general kitchen in specially-constructed trollies.

The architectural treatment in the later Scottish renaissance style of the various buildings is plain, but pleasant and varied. No two villas are exactly alike, and the aim has been to impart a picturesque and village-like appearance without any suggestion of a large institution. The architect is Mr. A. Marshall Mackenzie, A.R.S.A., whose admirable work is well known in the north of Scotland. It is likely that a system of purification by means of a covered septic tank with double contact filter beds will be adopted for the disposal of the sewage.

NEW HOME FOR IMBECILE CHILDREN.

There was opened at Woodilee Asylum, Lenzie, on September 14th, a Home for Imbecile Children, which has been erected by the District Lunacy Board of the Glasgow Parish Council. The new Home, which is estimated to cost over £10,000, is detached from, though near, the main building. It accommodates thirty-three children, and consists of three stories. The first floor contains a hall and corridor, a dining hall, day rooms, play room, and a special dormitory for six patients; the second floor is occupied chiefly by dormitories. In the meantime only children who are not susceptible of improvement are received. Dr. R. Wilson Bruce, convener of the Asylum Committee, on opening the home delivered a brief address. In the course of it he said that to make provision for non-educable imbecile children was new to asylum administration, and that the building was the first attempt in that direction in Scotland. Mr. R. Bryden was architect of the building.

LANCASHIRE ASYLUMS BOARD.

At a meeting of this authority lately, it was decided to award the asylum superintendents good service pay, carrying no pension, after twenty-one years' service, on the recommendation of the committees of the asylums. The overcrowding and lack of accommodation in the Lancashire asylums were discussed, after the reception of a deputation from Bolton.

NORTH MIDLAND POOR LAW CONFERENCE.

Dr. J. M. Rhodes read an interesting paper at this conference at Buxton. He urged that county councils should erect colony asylums, and said that by establishing first-class asylums with competent staff they could increase the number of recoveries, and (American statistics pointed that way) then they would be investing the capital of the ratepayers so as to furnish a very fair interest in the future.

MEETING OF THE MANCHESTER GUARDIANS.

The chairman of the October meeting referred to the deplorable occurrence in the Crumpsall workhouse, where the imbecile wards, intended for the care of harmless cases, were forced to receive all kinds of insane persons, owing to the want of accommodation in the asylums of the county. Prescott's case is referred to a committee of investigation, and we refrain from further comment in the meantime.

THE HARTFORD RETREAT.

We have been favoured with a copy of the *Hartford Times* of 16th December last, which contains a full account of a notable gift to the Hartford Retreat. Dr. Gurdon W. Russell has presented his beautiful country house on Cedar Mountain, with nine acres of ground, and a cheque for 500 dollars, so that the patients and staff may have the benefit of change of air and scene as may be thought proper. Dr. Russell has maintained an intimate connection with the affairs of the Retreat for nearly half the century as director, medical adviser, or president of the board of management, and one of his former benefactions is the handsome chapel which he gave to the institution some years ago. We congratulate this old-established

institution on its continued activity under the perennial direction of the veteran Dr. Stearns, whose revered personality is well known to many of us on this side of the Atlantic. These acts of generosity and goodwill towards the hospitals for the insane in America are by no means rare, and we could wish that some of our philanthropists were similarly moved to deeds of beneficence for the mentally afflicted at their doors.

THE MOUNT LEBANON ASYLUM.

This new institution has lately been opened, chiefly owing to the exertions of Mr. Theophilus Walmeir, who has for long served as a missionary in Syria. It consists of a central block with two pavilions, accommodating twenty patients of each sex. Seventeen patients are now resident. Dr. Wolff, lately of the Munsterengen Asylum, Switzerland, is the medical superintendent of this, the first organised institution for the insane in Syria. As funds will be required from Europe to maintain it for some time to come, our readers will note that Dr. Percy Smith is the chairman of the London Committee, and kindly lend their aid in developing a most deserving charity.

ORGANISATION OF PRIVATE ASYLUMS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The *Lancet* states that the Association for the Study and Cure of Inebriates has held a meeting for this purpose. It was pointed out that nearly a hundred asylums exist in the New England and Middle States for the treatment of mental and inebriate cases, that they are without organisation, State or local control, and managed by unknown persons, one half of them being charlatan institutions. We are well aware that grave suspicions have been entertained in reference to these houses, and rejoice to hear that a serious effort is to be made to alter existing circumstances.

THE ASYLUM WORKERS' ASSOCIATION.

This Association has already attained a wonderful success, not only in its numerical strength, but also in having secured a strong and influential list of office-bearers. The annual report states that the roll of members increased from 2890 to 3006 in the course of last year, 1010 new members having been elected. Many asylums not previously represented in connection with the Association have been added to the roll, and the financial statement shows that the ordinary receipts have been considerably in advance of those of the previous year. Starting with a credit balance of £137, the year ended with £147 to the good, and this after all expenses in connection with the *Asylum News*, the *Home of Rest*, etc. The Committee entered into details as to what was done to promote the interests of asylum workers, and specially congratulate the Association on the continued services of Sir James Crichton-Browne as President, and Dr. Shuttleworth as Secretary.

At the annual meeting the President delivered an eloquent address, which we need not reproduce here, as it is accessible in the columns of the *Asylum News*, which should find its way into every institution for the cure and treatment of the insane.

We congratulate the Association on its rapid progress, and the excellent work accomplished on behalf of all asylum workers, for in benefiting the workers it must in the end benefit the insane. In the words of the President, the Association "is deserving of the support of all who wish well to the mentally afflicted, and who desire to ameliorate the lot of those who immediately minister to them."

GENERAL HOSPITALS AND MENTAL DISEASES.

Out-patients suffering from mental disorders have been for long treated at St. Thomas's Hospital and elsewhere. The results of experience have shown that good work has been done in relieving many sufferers, and in avoiding the necessity for asylum care in not a few cases. It is, indeed, strange that so many of our general hospitals lag behind in this matter. The quarterly Court of Governors of the Newcastle Infirmary has decided to institute such a department, as reported by the *Newcastle Evening Chronicle* of November 1st. Dr. G. H. Hume, in