Craig Colony, New York State.

This colony, which is situate forty miles almost due south of Rochester, is the only public institution in the State for the treatment of epileptics who show no marked mental symptoms. It has now been in existence some thirty years, and the report is for the year ending June, 1925. It is a colony in the true sense of the word, and has a capacity of 1,500 patients, but it is obvious from the report of the Medical Superintendent that it has not only already outgrown a good deal of its administrative equipment, but also is in need of further accommodation for patients.

Referring to the epilepsies, Dr. Shanahan states that the laws of heredity are not sufficiently well established to warrant the positive assertion that epilepsy is frequently transmitted. So far as investigations go, the seeming transmission of a tendency to an epileptic reaction occurs in only a comparatively limited number, and in the majority of cases the origin appears to be post-conceptive in point of time.

"There is no specific treatment for epilepsy. The fundamental principles are therapeutic talks, nourishing diet, sufficient exercise out of doors, congenial occupation, well-balanced by suitable recreation, regular amount of sleep in a well-ventilated room, avoidance of undue excitement or worry, a minimum of medication and surgery, and careful attention given to secure active functioning of all organs of elimination. The seizures, present mental state and probable original mental endowment must be considered in making the prognosis. Seizures may be controlled, but a mind, which never has been, or one definitely deteriorated, cannot be restored.

"The use of luminal has been continued at the Colony, with material benefit to the majority of those patients receiving it."

A considerable amount of valuable education is carried out at the Colony under special teachers assigned from the Geneseo State Normal School faculty, of whom there are six with a Principal attached to the school.

The Colony laboratory shows a large record of routine work, and of special investigations.

Protein hypersensitivity was found to be considerably higher in epileptic groups as compared with non-epileptic groups in the proportion of 4·7 to 1. Luminal was clearly shown to be a palliative rather than a curative drug.

An investigation on the velocity of sinking of red blood-corpuscles is still in progress, together with further observations on the calcium content of the blood in epilepsy.

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