religions of the patients admitted, viz., Maronites, members of the Greek Church, Protestants, Roman Catholics, Druses, Moslems, and Jews.

A pleasing feature of the asylum in Syria is the satisfactory report brought back by English visitors. All unite in speaking in the highest terms of the estate and the buildings now in use. Everthing is reported to be in excellent order and very well kept, and the impression given is that the Hospital is well organised and a really good work is being done. There is, however, great need for additional buildings, seeing that acute and noisy cases have been refused, owing to the lack of suitable separate accommodation. The existing buildings consist of two blocks intended for twenty patients each, one for males, the other for females. There is therefore practically no classification of patients, and at night and during the cold weather, when patients are unable to be in the grounds, a noisy patient is very disturbing to the others.

Recent advices states that two new blocks are to be begun at once, which is highly satisfactory. Until there is more accommodation it can hardly be expected that any well-to-do patients will be sent, so that any donations given towards new buildings will be especially useful, and will assist the Hospital to obtain some revenue from paying patients.

The institution is at present dependent on voluntary contributions from Great Britain, America, and the Continent, and we are glad to see that members of the Medico-Psychological Association have taken an active part in forwarding this movement.

A copy of the Report and further particulars may be obtained from the English Secretary, Mr. F. C. Brading, 35, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The *British Congress on Tuberculosis*, which opens in London on July 23rd, promises to be a great success. Dr. Fletcher Beach has been elected a Vice-President, and Drs. Spence and Weatherly are on the Organising Council, the latter being also a member of the General Purposes Committee. Drs. Jones, Mott, Eric France, and Weatherley are Delegates representing the Medico-Psychological Association.

With regard to the *Tuberculosis Committee* appointed by the Association, we understand that several meetings have been held, and much interesting and valuable information has been collected. The great extent of the inquiry will not permit of a report being presented at the annual meeting in Cork.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE UNFIT.

America is the place for experimental legislation. Laws are enacted, and, from time to time, are allowed to drop into desuetude with a certain alacrity. To be sure, it was but lately that a learned judge in an English Court entered on a disquisition in reference to witchcraft. Still, that showed some tenacity of ancient formularies, for witchcraft was discredited for ever by one Reginald Scot, Esq., some three hundred years ago. The very latest sensation in law-making is the Bill proposed in Minnesota for the prevention of the marriage of the unfit, and we hope to obtain some account of its provisions and of the debate in the State Legislature in due course.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT.

Dr. Robert Anderson, the Assistant Commissioner of Police in London, has written an article in the *Nineteenth Century* for February on "Our Absurd System of Punishing Crime." He finds that there is an increase in "professional" crime which might be suppressed, and ought to be dealt with in a more intelligent way than at present. Dr. Anderson is of opinion that this real danger to the Commonwealth is mainly due to the lenient sentences which have become the

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