40 *per cent.* of lymphocytes should be of value, especially if mast cells are also present.

SECONDLY.—A total white count, in cases of manic-depressive and confusional insanity, which progressively shows an increase of white cells, points to a good prognosis and an ultimate recovery, while a slight polynucleosis over a long period points to chronicity.

THIRDLY.—As regards differential diagnosis, difficulty often arises as to whether patients showing symptoms of mania or confusional insanity belong to those forms of disease, or are actively progressing general paralytics, especially where there is no history of syphilis and bodily symptoms are absent. If a white count is done at intervals in these cases a large polynucleosis, which increases as the patient grows worse, points to general paralysis, while a polynucleosis of lesser degree, which increases as a patient improves with no noticeable increase in lymphocytes, points to manic-depressive or confusional insanity.

Also as general paralytics make a temporary improvement their total white counts, although exhibiting a slight polynucleosis, decreases and exhibits a marked lymphocytosis.

Some Registered Hospitals.

Barnwood.—The Committee note that on the outbreak of war they placed one of their dependencies at the disposal of the authorities for the gratuitous maintenance and treatment of private soldiers, and another for the reception of officers. The offer was not accepted. Dr. Soutar reports that the number of male applications had fallen off remarkably for no known reason. He had to refuse one or two on account of shortage of staff. In place of an average admission rate of thirty-five of both sexes, only nineteen were admitted.

The Retreat, York.—The war not only made a call on the energy and unselfishness of those of the staff who were left, but it produced much evidence of right feeling. A simplification of diet was readily accepted, and the Secretary was authorised to deduct twopence per pound from salaries as a contribution to the York Citizens' Fund. Then the nurses devoted their spare time to caring for the numerous Belgian refugees taken charge of at the Friends' Meeting House, finding night nurses for the Distribution Home, washing the babies, etc. Dr. Bedford Pierce records with sincere regret that the cost of maintenance had reached such a point of increase that it was found necessary to raise the terms. He was gratified to find that in almost every case the additional amount suggested was willingly paid. But, in spite of this extra income, we regret to see that the receipts were slightly below the outgoings. The bombardment of Scarborough was a terrifying experience for the inmates of Throxenby Hall, the seaside outlet of the Retreat; but no ill results followed. Dr. Pierce truly states a fact that has to be taken into account when considering fitness for parole or special indulgence—the disease sometimes seems to destroy all sense of honour. As an instance, a nurse volunteered to take a nice quiet patient for a cycle ride. But the nice quiet patient was better mounted and a better rider than the nurse, and going up a hill she outrode her companion, being subsequently found wandering on the railway.

Some Scottish Royal Hospitals.

Aberdeen.—Dr. Reid, writing in January, 1915, had not been able to trace any ætiological connection between the war and the mental dis-

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