One hundred years ago

The prevention of insanity

The London County Council has taken a most enlightened step in instituting a scholarship for the study of the working and effects of preventable social and industrial causes of insanity. Whether the increase in the number of insane persons in asylums be due to an actual increase in the amount of insanity, or to a greater accumulation of cases which in former times might not have found their way into such institutions, it is at least certain that if any effectual attempt is to be made to prevent insanity we must obtain more precise knowledge as to the causes which produce its various forms. The sholarship is of the annual value of £150, and is tenable in the Pathological Laboratory of Claybury Asylum. The scholarship, which will be called the "Scholarship in Sanitary Science," will be awarded in the first instance for one year, but may be renewed for the second and possibly for a third year upon a satisfactory report being received from the Superintendent of the Pathological Laboratory, under whose direction the scholar will be required to work. He will be required to give his whole time to the work, and in making the selection preference will be given to a candidate who is a qualified and registered practitioner and has completed his academic course. The appointment will be made by the Technical Education Board, and candidates, who must be ordinarily resident within the administrative county of London, must apply with a full record of their previous work and references to their professional teachers, to the Secretary of the Board, St. Martin's Place, W. C., not later then March 22nd.

REFERENCE

British Medical Journal, 20 March, 1897, 739.

Researched by Henry Rollin, Emeritus Consultant Psychiatrist, Horton Hospital, Epsom Surrey

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