mental symptoms, and, as in past years, the results obtained by energetic and even drastic treatment were frequently disappointing."

Rest in bed on verandahs has been intensified in this hospital during the past year by a regulated exposure of increasing areas of the uncovered body to the direct rays of the sun, and by the use of the ultra-violet rays produced by a mercury vapour lamp.

Every eligible nurse and attendant sat the examination for the nursing certificate.

Northern Ireland.

Down County.—During the year 1925, 110 patients were admitted, the male and female admissions being exactly equal in number. The total number of cases under care during the year was 830, and the number remaining on the books at the end of the year was 720, the males predominating.

Of the admissions, there were only 4 cases of general paralysis of the insane, 4 of epilepsy and 4 of primary dementia—the largest figure occurs under the heading "recent melancholia."

The recovery-rate was a high one, namely, 53% of the admissions, which Dr. M. J. Nolan explains as follows:

> **"This high rate may be attributed to a very limited extent to the speedy return to equilibrium of storm-stressed minds which, unbalanced by purely psychical burdens, find themselves quickly stabilized when harboured in sheltered surroundings. But the vast majority of the patients admitted were those whose mental affection was the outstanding accompaniment of some abnormal organic or functional condition in structures other than the brain. Very many, if not most mental derangements arise from causes outside that organ. 'Search the body to find the disordered mind' is the slogan in the clinical investigation of insanity. The appended abstract from the *Medical Journal* shows that no less than 594 cases were under treatment during the year for various bodily ailments."**

Of the admissions, heredity was ascertained in 29% of the cases, and in 3 cases masturbation and sexual excess were assigned as associated factors of the insanity; alcohol was only considered a principal factor in one case, and the puerperal state (not septic) was only responsible for a single case. The preponderating factor in causation appears to have been prolonged mental stress.

The Committee of Management have adopted certain regulations in connection with promotion of the nursing staff and the possession of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association Certificate, which Dr. Nolan finds have proved an excellent stimulus, and larger numbers are now presenting themselves for training and examination, to the great advantage of the hospital and its patients.

The dental department is now in full working order, and the tabular statement appended shows a considerable amount of valuable work done, 372 patients having been treated during the year.

The large number of exceedingly good photographic illustrations of the hospitals, both inside and out, adds interest to the report.

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