

COULD INSANE PEOPLE IN SAFE WAY

Cottage Plan Proves Its Excellence—Scatters Patients Outdoors, Amusements, Tasks and Sleep.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

(Copyright, 1908, by Frederic J. Haskin.) Toledo, Ohio, Dec. 5.—Here in Toledo the cottage system of housing the insane was first adopted in the United States. When first suggested 25 years ago it was sneered at, derided, and because of its unpopularity had innumerable obstacles thrown in its way.

Public opinion has changed a great deal in this quarter of a century. The ability to change the point of view is said to be a mark of progress. This very plan that was ridiculed when inaugurated has become the model on which every new hospital for the insane is being built in this country.

Outdoor Life. There are 26 cottages here, each accommodating 40 men or women. Each is made as near like a home as possible, with comfortable sleeping quarters and living rooms and every incentive to normal living and normal occupations.

Amusements All the Time. When patient suffering from a hallucination one of the six physicians here, who are continually making their rounds, calls several times a day on such patient and step by step tries to develop the reasoning faculties and then shows the absurdity of the idea. Of those who suffer from fixed delusions, two thirds are deemed incurable. They are taught to doubt the existence of the delusion, often with good results. All the while the patient is kept from disturbing influences, is given plenty of wholesome food, and all possible outdoor life. The more successful ones receive constant attention, and are more apt to improve than the ones suffering from melancholia.

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BLAKE TELLS OF PLOT TO BRIBE

Says Ruef's Man Had \$5000 to \$6000 for Kelly If Jury Was Close.

(United Press Leased Wire.) San Francisco, Dec. 5.—A carefully laid plot to bribe John Martin Kelly, a prospective Ruef juror, to vote for the acquittal of the former city boss was alleged today by E. A. S. Blake, who is relied upon by the prosecution for testimony that will convict Ruef's attorney, Frank J. Murphy, of participation in the crime. Blake, under questioning of District Attorney William H. Langdon, declared that Murphy, Attorney A. S. Newburgh, who is also accused of the same crime, and himself were in conference over the proposed bribing of Kelly.

It is claimed by students of the mentally defective that the first born in nearly every French peasant's home is an imbecile, or mentally unfit in some way, and the cause is found in the fact that the first few weeks of its parents' early married life had been spent in a continual bout of feasting and merry-making, always drinking more wine than was good for them. Such children were born of the spirit of intemperance and became unwitting charges on the state. This is one of the biggest arguments in favor of the liquor tax. It will not only protect the innocent, but save to this nation alone about 18,000 men and women that in all probability would have been born of the spirit of intemperance and become unwitting charges on the state.

It was a former superintendent of the Toledo hospital who invented a bathtub for the use of insane patients to prevent the many serious accidents that have caused deaths from scalds and burns, when patients possessed of strong wrong fancies. This invention was so arranged that when the water reached a certain temperature an automatic device prevented the entrance of more hot water. He also perfected a device for preventing the escape of patients by investigating patients tampered with the fixtures. These were characteristic achievements of the Toledo hospital and of the men who made it the model of its kind—one of the nation's biggest inspirations in uplift work among defectives.

From Progress. The borrowing of novels is declining all over England, and is being replaced by 15 per cent of the work done by public libraries. In the public libraries of the United Kingdom there are 9,000,000 reference and 3,000,000 lending books. 600,000 reference books are consulted every year, according to the records, and at least an equal number are taken from the shelves and consulted without being recorded. Every year, 60,000,000 books are lent for home reading. Giving further detail the investigator states that "the taste for history, biography and travel is on the wane; readers are all for science and sociology, and books on socialism are always in demand."

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