

THE ASYLUM ENQUIRY

THURSDAY, Oct. 12.

The Commission met at 10.30. Dr. E. D. Johnson was first examined. To Dr. Conroy he said he had been a practicing physician since 1885. He acted for Dr. Blanchard at the asylum for four months in the summer of 1885. He had just graduated and had heard lectures at McGill on insanity. There were about 120 patients at that time. They were not classified. It was complained that the institution was overcrowded at that time; but subsequently the attic was opened up. At that time he thought the place was as full as it ought to be. He remained at the asylum at night. There were no records kept, beyond a list of the patients and a prescription book. There was also a "case" book in which was entered the certificates of insanity and the report of a friend. There were no written reports showing that the patients had any other disease. He had been called up at night once or twice. Witness administered the remedies himself; but if he were away Robert Macdonald did it. It is a great advantage to have trained nurses in the treatment of all diseases. He thought there should always be a doctor at the asylum. When he was there the food was apparently good; there were no complaints regarding it. There is an order that the attendants visit each room every hour during the night. The house was kept as clean as it could be in those days. Patients were admitted on the approval of the doctor in charge. Witness had the privilege of refusing to admit a patient if he was so disposed. He had no specific instruction as to the admission of idiots, epileptics and such people. He believed a physician in charge of an asylum should be an expert in mental diseases, as well as a skilled general practitioner. Special knowledge regarding insanity tends to the recovery of the patient. If he were desirous of becoming an expert in the treatment of the insane he would take a special course in mental and nervous diseases. The treatment of the insane is made a specialty by those in charge of an insane asylum. He would have a resident physician and at least one nurse trained in mental and nervous disease and competent to administer medicine. There is too much done at the asylum in the interests of economy. He was told, for instance, that too much money was spent on drugs. The people who have charge should have a free hand as to the expenditures and the treatment of patients. The employees should be free from political control, also the Hospital Board. The Board, with the medical attendant, should be the proper persons to employ the attendants. There is opportunity for outdoor work during the summer. Different occupations have much to do with helping insane persons towards recovery. Provision should be made for the care of the sick. There should be hospital accommodation there for sick patients.

To Mr. Rogers—He thought the temperature for sleeping rooms in the asylum should be between 55 and 65 degrees. A temperature of 32 degrees was rather cold. He would not want to sleep in a room where it was necessary to cover the taps to keep the water from freezing. To Mr. McEachern—He thought it hard for an attendant to see all the patients every hour. Dr. F. P. Taylor followed. To Dr. Conroy he said he had been practicing medicine in the city about thirty years. He had been at the asylum a good deal some years ago but not often during the last three or four years. He sometimes acted for the regular physician during the latter's absence. He attended mostly to the sick patients. He did not know much about the food. He thought that there was about one tenth of the patients that could be cured. It was a mistake to mix the incurables and those who could be cured. There were about nine tenths of the patients who did not require any special treatment inasmuch as they were incapable of cure or improvement. He would not favor the admission of idiots and such incurables to the asylum. All such wanted were clothes and food and ordinary care. He thought the medical man in charge should have a special knowledge of the treatment of insanity and be a good general practitioner besides. He thought it would be better to have a man there all the time; but it might do if he lived outside and was always on hand to answer telephone calls. He thought the employment of two competent trained nurses a good idea. A man should not be hired because he was a friend of the politicians. The doctor should have power to discharge employees if they were unfit and be consulted when appointments are being made. To Mr. Rogers—He had no special information regarding insanity or the management of hospitals in other provinces. There are only about twenty people in the asylum who require special treatment. He thought Doctor Blanchard understood his business well. To Dr. Conroy—In certain cases he thought it was advisable for the attending physician to consult with other medical men inasmuch as insanity is often caused by a disease of organs other than the brain. A record of all cases should be kept. To Mr. Rogers—There is not very much compounding to do on the part of Mr. Macdonald. He found Mr. McDonald competent to do all he wanted him to do. Mr. McDonald he thought a very smart man, and he never knew him to make a mistake in administering medicine. He did not think the patients should be without a medical attendant for three or four days at a time, but no bad consequences might come out of this. The chances of recovery, however, were greater if the doctor saw the patients every day. To Dr. Conroy—He had heard that in other institutions mechanical restraint

had been done away with to a great extent. Minnie Dagherly was the next witness. To Dr. Conroy she said she had been an attendant at the asylum about two years. Was on duty from 5.30 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day, with one night on watch. She thought the patients are properly looked after and get good food. There was a time when the meat was not very good, but it is better now. Some days the patients would not eat the meat. Some days there would be a strong smell off the meat, also a strong taste. The patients and attendants have complained of the meat more than once. She thought things were all right now. All the attendants complained of the food last spring. They only complained among themselves; did not tell any one. To Mr. Rogers—There were dark specks in the porridge for a short while in the spring, but it is better now. The milk is very good now. There were often grounds in the milk. She could not account for them being there. Sometimes the porridge is not sufficiently cooked, but not very often. She did not complain to the matron about the food. The attendants porridge is not cooked in the same pot as that for the patients. She did not think there was any difference made in preparing food for patients or attendants. She never heard the patients complain that they got bad food while the attendants got good food. She did not know that the meat was tainted when it was brought to the asylum. She did not think it was true that sick patients are not cared for. She believed all the attendants did their duty as well as they could. She never heard the patients complain of being cold in their rooms and never saw water freeze on the floors while scrubbing. Sometimes the patients will throw the clothes off themselves at night. The night watch covers the patients when they do this. The watch has always to wear extra clothes at night. Some of the patients are kept in guarded rooms, but never for a whole day at a time. The beds are examined each night, and when found to be soiled the sheets are changed. She did not know that any of the patients suffered from cold by reason of being confined in these guarded rooms. To Dr. Conroy—The patients wear two woolen skirts and a dress over them. They also wear woolen stockings and shoes. To Mr. Rogers—Never heard patients crying because of the cold nor heard that snow or rain beat in upon them in their beds. Hon. James R. McLean, one of the trustees of the asylum, next gave evidence. To Mr. Rogers he said: The trustees have to visit the asylum and see how the institution is managed and that everything is all right. These visits are made once a month, as a rule, but oftener when necessary. The supplies generally go by tender, such as clothing, meat, flour, milk, etc. But in some cases when a better bargain can be obtained by private sale they are obtained in this way. Where the grade is good the lowest tender is accepted. When the flour did not give satisfaction the contractor, J. A. Farquharson, changed the brand. Meat that was not good was returned; unsatisfactory butter had also been returned. They have a refrigerator at the asylum. He has never had any complaint from the patients regarding the food. He had no complaints from the supervisor regarding the conduct of the employees. He thought the appointment of help had usually been left to the doctor, but the Premier, Mr. Peters, may have suggested some. He knew of no appointments being made because of politics. There are complaints this year regarding defects in the heating apparatus. It is contemplated to change the heating and ventilating system when the new wing is built. He never heard of patients being cold till the grand jury reported it. He had no knowledge of it ever being brought to his notice that the building was not comfortable. He thought the building was too small for the number of patients there. There are no wash basins in the rooms; the patients wash in the bath tubs. He always thought the time spent by the doctor in the institution was insufficient. There was not sufficient time to pay full attention to individual cases. It is impossible under existing circumstances to separate the idiots and people of that class from the others. To Dr. Conroy—He always understood that male help was employed by the doctor. The premier may have made suggestions. He thought the salary paid the medical superintendent was small if he was expected to give his whole attention to the asylum. Balls supplied the meat. Henders-on transferred his contract to Balls. It might be desirable to have a medical man on the board of trustees. The attention of the trustees is not drawn to the fact that an inmate of the institution is in danger of dying. The supervisor has on one or two occasions reported cases of illness to him.

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Local and Other Items.

THE MINSTRELS give their evening entertainment at the Opera House tonight, when they will probably have a large audience. Their band paraded the streets at noon today.

DAIRY ASSOCIATION GRANT.—The P. E. Island Dairy Association has received the grant of \$300 promised this spring by Professor Robertson to be devoted to the use of the Association.

FOOTBALL.—The Abegweits have received a telegram from the Dalhousie College team stating that they will give them a match on Wednesday. They meet the Wanderers on Thursday. The team will leave here on Tuesday.

P. E. I. HOSPITAL.—A meeting of women interested in the P. E. I. Hospital will be held in the Y M C A parlor Saturday afternoon, October 14th, at half past three o'clock. A large attendance is desired. 240, 21

CHEESE BOARD.—At the meeting of the cheese board today eight factories bearded 1,715 cheese and 11 5 8c was bid. There were no sales. The next meeting of the board will be held on Friday, Oct. 27th, at 11.30. This will probably be the last meeting of the board for the season. Complaints were made at the meeting today that some of the factories are not keeping their curing room at a proper temperature, resulting in a pasty cheese with a bitter flavor. The proper temperature of the curing room for October cheese is 60 to 64 degrees.

PERSONAL.

Mr. J. A. Leaman, of Halifax, was a passenger by the Princess last evening.

Rev. Dr. Doyle, of Vernon River, was in the city today returning from Summerside.

Mr. John Hyndman left this morning on a visit to the neighboring provinces and Ontario.

The Rev. Marcell Conran arrived from Amherst last night. He will preach in St. Peter's Cathedral Sunday.

Mr. Edward Irwin, of THE EXAMINER left this morning for Boston where he will live in the future. Success.

Mrs. (Dr) Taylor and Mrs. R. Heartz, left this morning for Summerside. They will be away about a week.

Messrs. Thos. A. McLean, jr. B. Sc., and Thos. Strickland, M. Sc., left this morning by the Princess en route to Sydney, C. B., where they have secured positions in the drafting room of the Dominion Steel Works company.

BORN.

On Thursday morning, Oct. 12th, to Mr and Mrs G F Hutchison, a son.

LOCAL NOTICES.

See the magnificent line of suitings and overcoatings.—John MacLeod & Co.

A great display of lamps in various designs and prices, lamps to stand and lamps to hang, and so cheap at W P Colwill's.

Visitors to the Cathedral bazaar are cordially invited to visit our store where they will find watches, silverware, and jewelry at specially low prices on Oct 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th.—E W Taylor, Cameron Block, Ch'town.

2000 yards of English and Canadian Flannelettes, 4c, 5c, 6c, 7c, 8c, 9c, 10c and 12c per yard. Our values are the best in the city.—J B Macdonald & Co.

Another case Ladies Jackets direct from Berlin; opened to day at Stanley Bros. 240 dy2i

"McCall's Magazine," the queen of fashion, one year fifty cents, and you can get a McCall pattern free. Drop me a postal and I will call round for your subscription. Robt L Cotton, P O Box 84, Ch'town. 4i & wy.



Sticky Fly Paper

AND Fly Poison rads

are now in order to kill off the last flies of summer.

Special prices to close out our stock.

Johnson's DRUGGISTS

Saturday Night = =

Buy your Groceries tomorrow at JOHN MCKENNAS Store, Queen St.

You'll find you can buy a lot of Groceries for very little money. Call

J. MCKENNA, QUEEN STREET

MEET ME AT THE ALWAYS BUSY STORE

Choice Reliable Furs

at Stanley Bros

This season's offerings are as near perfection as it is possible for shrewd buying, experience, and close inspection to make them.

We have the latest novelties in plain and combination furs

We have qualities in each price, that cannot be beaten in Canada.

We have Fine Furs

SEE THEM

Stanley Bros.

GRAND PROVINCIAL BAZAAR!

Oct. 10th to 20th

St. Dunstan's Cathedral Basement

Then There is

Our new stock of Slater Shoes to see, just came in time for the Big Bazaar. Fifteen cases of them in colored and black, light or heavy soles. By far the largest and best stock of men's high-class footwear ever brought here, \$3.5 and \$5.00 a pair.

Cheap Railway Fares

See their arrangements

SPECIAL PRICES ON BOOTS & SHOES

to Bazaar Visitors. We have our store all ready. Reduced prices from Monday till Friday.

ALLEY & CO ALLEY & Co

We are Now Ready For the Fall Trade

With the finest line of Suitings, Overcoating Trousering, etc., etc.

ever placed before the people of P. E. Island. Having the largest stock to select from, an established reputation for fit, style and workmanship is surely sufficient inducement for you to have your clothing made by

GORDON & McLELLAN, Men's Stylish Outfitter

Have You Made Up Your Mind

What kind of a boot you will get for fall wear. We cannot crowd all our different styles of boots into the window—just drop in and say I want to see that boot at such and such a price. The rest is easy at

McQUAID'S LOWER QUEEN STREET

BOOT & SHOE STORE.

2 Specials

FOR TO-NIGHT

Ladies' Black Cloth Jackets

Regular \$1.90, for \$1.60

Men's all Wool Ribbed Underwear

Regular \$1.30 To-night \$1.00

a Suit WEEKS & CO THE PEOPLES' STORE

COMING!

OPERA HOUSE

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY OCT. 13th & 14th.

SATURDAY MATINEE.

The Only Big SHOW of the Year Culhane, Chace & Weston's MINSTRELS.

THE STAR COMPANY WILL E. CULHANE Wm. H. CHACE WILL R. WESTON.

BRAM AND TERRILL

The Imperial Four—Durkin, Norton, Cherry and Miller.

ALLAIRE & GAUDRAU

The De Elmer Trio

BOB DE RUE

EXTRA ATTRACTIONS

Famous Three St. Felix Sisters

A SHOW of NOVELTIES

2 - - BIG BANDS - - 2

Superb Orchestra. Seats on sale at usual places. Prices 25 35 and 50. Matinee prices 15 and 25.

EVENING CLASSES

For You Will be opened on the 16th inst.,

at the Charlottetown Business College and Writing Academy, where instructions will be given in Book-Keeping, Business Practice, Correspondence, Business Penmanship, Practical Arithmetic, Shorthand and Typewriting.

Classes open from 7.30 to 9.30 p. m. Five sessions per week. Enter at any time but NOW is the best.

Students may study any branches desired. Individual instructions given by the following teachers:—J Harry Williams (Penmanship); Wm Moran, Licensed Teacher of Phonography; A C McMillan, (Licensed).

L. B. MILLER, Principal Apply at College for particulars.