

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO

The Nursing of the Insane

The Council of the Medico-Psychological Association are pressing forward their scheme for organising a system of practical instruction for nurses and attendants in asylums, to be followed by examination and the granting of special certificates to those who are successful in passing the requisite standard. Already a goodly number of candidates have entered, and encouraging reports are being received of the satisfactory progress the work is making in all parts of the kingdom. In this connection it is worthy of note that the London County Council have granted permission to Dr Ewart, of the Colney Hatch Asylum, to deliver a course of lectures, under the rules of the St John Ambulance Association, at this

asylum, and we trust that Dr Ewart, who is himself a member of the Medico-Psychological Association, will supplement this useful work by endeavouring to encourage the nurses and attendants to proceed to acquirement of the certificate of the Association, which will enable them to become qualified as specially trained in the nursing and care of the insane. This has already been done with much success at the City of London and one or two other asylums, and we are glad to think that there is an increased activity in this direction throughout the asylums of the country generally.

Reference

British Medical Journal, 9 May 1891, 1032.

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