

An increase in the tea allowance to $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and the coffee allowance to $\frac{3}{4}$ oz., as was formerly authorised.

That the butter ration be increased to 2 oz. per diem, and that butter purchased for storage should score 92, and for immediate use not lower than 90.

That the sugar ration be increased to $2\frac{1}{2}$ oz., the cheese ration to $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. and the meat ration to $9\frac{1}{2}$ oz., the additional half ounce over the present ration to cover a monthly ration of poultry for the entire institution.

That the milk ration be increased from 1 pint and 1 pint additional for 20 *per cent.* of the population, to 1 pint and 1 pint additional for 30 *per cent.* of the population, and that the fruit allowance be increased to 15 cents per week per person.

The committee also, by resolution, recommended that a liberal use of ginger-snaps, assorted cookies, canned fruits, vegetables, breakfast foods, spices, condiments, etc., be allowed on the hospital tables, and that dried meats, tongue, etc., be included in the dietary.

It was also recommended by the committee that a better grade of fresh fish be provided for hospital consumption.—*State Hospital Quarterly*, August, 1923.

NEW YORK STATE HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES.

The following facts regarding the movement of employees in the State Mental Hospitals of New York and the proportion of staff to patients may be of interest to our readers. The return covers the period of three months ending June 30, 1923.

	No. on April 1.	Engaged.	Left.	Vacancies on June 30, 1923.
Medical officers	171	16	8	24
Ward employees	3839	1030	1045	294
Other employees	2771	320	334	164

No. of patients on June 30, 1923 : 41,302; over-crowded by 7,281 patients.

Proportion to patients : 1 medical officer to 212.3; 1 ward employee to 10.0; 1 other employee to 5.8.—*Ibid.*

STERILISATION AND MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

WITH further reference to this subject, which was dealt with in our "Occasional Note" on *The Prophylaxis of Insanity and Mental Deficiency* (*vide p. 358*), we have since received a report on Sterilisation and Mental Deficiency issued by the Council of the Central Association for Mental Welfare, dated June of this year. We are glad to note that the Council, backed by a report of their Medical Committee, are in general agreement with the views we expressed in our "Occasional Note." This report is a valuable contribution to our knowledge on this subject and should be read by all our readers. Copies (price 2d. each) can be obtained from the Offices of the Central Association at 24, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. 1.

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM CROCHLEY SAMPSON CLAPHAM, M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin.

DR. CROCHLEY S. CLAPHAM, who died suddenly at his residence, The Five Gables, Mayfield, Sussex, at the age of 75, on May 31, was a native of Wakefield, and a descendant of the great North Yorkshire family of de Clapham. Alluding to the custom of burial uncoffined and in the upright position, the poet writes of the ghastly sight presented by the vault :

"When cheek by cheek and hand in hand,
The Claphams and Mauleverers stand."

Educated at Cambridge and Guy's Hospital, he went out as a ship's surgeon and travelled extensively in China and the Far East, passing through many perilous adventures. He served as a surgeon in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, on the side which most Englishmen then regarded as the right one. He became Assistant Medical Officer in the Wakefield Asylum in the time of Sir James Crichton-Browne, and entered enthusiastically into the pathological work which has always distinguished that great institution. The subjects which chiefly interested him

were cranial measurement and cerebral abnormalities in cases associated with congenital mental defect, and on these he wrote and published extensively. He then joined the late Dr. Atkinson as partner in the licensed house, The Grange, near Rotherham, and was appointed Physician to the Sheffield Royal Hospital. There he instituted what he claimed to be the first Hospital Mental Out-patient Department. He also practised as a consultant in mental diseases in Sheffield. Becoming secretary of the Northern Division of the Association he was a most indefatigable worker in its interests, and a regular attendant and speaker at both the divisional and general meetings. In 1900 he took in a partner at The Grange, retiring from active work there, and from the Royal Hospital, where he was appointed Consulting Physician, and from the secretaryship of the Division. He went to reside at an old house in Sussex, where he did some consulting work which he did not seek, and only came down to The Grange to relieve his partner on holiday. He then resumed with interest his work at the Hospital. Crochley Clapham was physically and mentally a striking and commanding personality. Exceptionally tall and broad shouldered, he presented a picturesque appearance, with finely formed head, marked features and pointed beard. As a young man, as became a good Yorkshireman, he was fond of hunting, also of shooting, and was a regular follower of the Badsworth Hounds. On one occasion when piloting a lady patient in Cambridgeshire, he rode at the infant Cam, and getting a fall, broke his leg. He was also devoted to bicycling. He was a most omnivorous reader, and in later years, and when afflicted by cardiac trouble, was one of those fortunate persons who are always happy with a book, an armchair and a pipe. Under a brusque and somewhat dominating manner he hid a kind and sympathetic heart. He was twice married, and leaves a widow, but no children.

GILBERT E. MOULD.

FREDERICK EDWARD RAINSFORD, M.D.Dubl.

We regret to note the death of Dr. Frederick E. Rainsford, who died on June 6 last, at the Stewart Institution, Chapelizod, co. Dublin, where he had laboured for some 25 years as Resident Medical Superintendent. Prior to his death he had been in failing health for a considerable time, suffering as he did from that fell disease, lymphatic leucocythæmia. However, with the help of blood transfusions he had been able to carry on his work to a period within a few months of his death. Indeed, in the spring, he had attended a Divisional meeting of the Association, and at that time he expressed himself as feeling extraordinarily well. Alas! It was not to be for long! The not-to-be-denied relapse came sooner than was expected, and shortly there arrived the happy release from all worldly care.

Rainsford, who was born at Ballinasloe, co. Galway, in the year 1862, had had the early advantage of being associated as a student with a University of ancient foundation, and with two colleges whose sons are found where'er the English language is spoken. He thus combined the teachings of Dublin and Edinburgh. What memories of medical education come to one's mind at the sound of these names!

In 1890 he obtained the licence of the Royal Colleges at Edinburgh and Glasgow. The following year saw him secure his M.B. in Dublin University, in which examination he had the satisfaction of obtaining first place. Three years later he proceeded to his M.D. in the same University. But apparently he was not yet satisfied, for, in 1895, he sat for and obtained the Licentiatehip of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland.

Before starting on his medical studies he had experienced a phase of life which, in itself, must have been of infinite value to him, when later he became Superintendent of an institution dealing with defective children, for he had been an Assistant Master in Rathmines School, where it may be stated he was much beloved by the boys, not alone on account of his love for and prowess at athletics, but also for a kind and cheery spirit—a spirit which endured throughout his life.

When a man reaches the acme of his fame it is apt to be forgotten that success has been obtained, almost invariably, through means of sound and solid work in the early years of life. In this case it is obvious that the requirements of solid work as a foundation for success were fulfilled, for Rainsford's first medical appointment came as a Demonstrator in Chemistry at the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, and he also conducted a large and successful "grind" in medical subjects.