

in his "History of the two World Wars"—the first time in history that such chronicles have been given to the world immediately after the event!

In his long, glorious Parliamentary career no man has held more offices than Sir Winston, and his amazing knowledge on so many issues is attributed to his untiring patience, which was not bestowed on him by nature, but of which it has been his genius to acquire. Illustrious pens in paying tribute to Sir Winston's unrivalled achievements consider his command of this quality was his genius in giving deep study and careful preparation on matters nothing was too small to probe. He then always knew what he was talking about.

Unrivalled in debate, Sir Winston has ever been a generous opponent; beloved by all parties for his warm-hearted humanity, irrepressible humour and sincerity. We rejoice that Parliament will on his return be blessed by his magnetic presence as the greatest Back Bencher ever! The man of peace who saved the free world!

Sir Winston's History of the Two World Wars is a revelation of the magnitude of his literary genius. One is taken along as events turn—his personal letters to those in high office of responsibility always in touch with happenings all over the world at a time when Sir Winston was suffering much agony of mind concerning the many details of the war. The following incident shows Sir Winston's warm and ready sympathy:

"In the White House the President and I sat talking after dinner in his study, and Admiral Pound came to see us upon a naval point. The President asked him several questions about the general aspects of the war, and I was pained to see that my trusted naval friend had lost the outstanding matter-of-fact precision which characterised him. Both the President and I were sure he was very ill.

"Next morning Pound came to see me in my big bed-sitting room and said sharply: 'Prime Minister, I have come to resign. I have had a stroke and my right side is largely paralysed. I thought it would pass off, but it gets worse every day, and I am no longer fit for duty.' I at once accepted the First Sea Lord's resignation, and expressed my profound sympathy for his breakdown in health. I told him he was relieved at that moment from all responsibility, and urged him to rest for a few days and then come home with me in the 'Renown.' He was completely master of himself, and his whole manner was instinct with dignity. As soon as he left the room I cabled to the Admiralty placing Vice-Admiral Syfret in responsible charge from that moment pending the appointment of a new First Sea Lord."

A. S. B.

What constitutes a State?

Not high-raised battlements or laboured mound,
Thick wall or moated gate.

No: men, high-minded men,

Men who their duties know,

But know their rights, and knowing, dare maintain,

These constitute a State.

SIR W. JONES.

The History of Mental Nursing.

By L. Goddard, S.R.N.

IN 1890 the duties of asylum administration were transferred from the Justices to the County Councils, and in the same year came the introduction of the new Lunacy Act.

Asylum administration is now regulated by the Lunacy Laws of 1890 to 1930.

The interests of the insane were further safeguarded as regards their treatment in hospital, the staff being forbidden to ill-treat or wilfully neglect a patient, even harmless slapping being considered ill-treatment, and offenders were liable to a penalty, mostly severe.

Section 322 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, states: "If any manager, officer, nurse, attendant, servant or other person having charge of a lunatic, whether by reason of any contract or of any tie of relationship, or marriage, or otherwise, ill-treats or wilfully neglects a patient, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and, on conviction or indictment, shall be liable to fine or imprisonment at the discretion of the court, or be liable on summary conviction for every offence to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds nor less than two pounds."

Section 323: "If any manager, officer, or servant of an institution for lunatics, wilfully permits, or assists, or connives at the escape or attempted escape of a patient, or secretes a patient, he shall for every offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds nor less than two pounds."

Section 324: "If any manager, officer, nurse, attendant or other person employed in any institution for lunatics (including an asylum for criminal lunatics), or workhouse, or any person having the care or charge of any single patient, or any attendant of any single patient, carnally knows or attempts to have carnal knowledge of any female under care or treatment as a lunatic in the institution, or workhouse, or as a single patient, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and, on conviction or indictment, shall be liable to be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding two years, and no consent or alleged consent of such female thereto shall be any defence to an indictment or prosecution for such offence."

It is also punishable by law to seclude or mechanically restrain a patient without permission first from the Medical Officer, who makes an entry in a book kept for this purpose, and it is a misdemeanour if this entry is omitted. Such restraint includes all instruments or appliances, which restrict or impede the movement of the body or limbs.

A copy of the records and certificate is sent to the Commissioners each quarter, giving in each case the method used.

It is also a misdemeanour to allow patients to sign documents, transact business, or make wills without the Medical Officer's permission.

Wills made during senile dementia and chronic alcoholism especially may be disputed on the grounds that the testator had been unduly influenced by the nurse.

An imbecile may make a will if he understands what he is doing, and a paranoiac may also make a will provided the delusion is not such as materially to affect the disposition.

The competency for will making consists of the individual being able to recall:

1. The nature and extent of his property, and
2. The persons who have claims on him and their relative degree.

Unless the will is outrageous in its dispositions it is usually upheld by the court.

Perfectly good wills have been made during the individual's lucid intervals, but the Medical Officer in charge must decide if the person is fit to do so.

All nurses in mental hospitals work under the Lunacy Laws, which are very exacting, and in addition to the supervision and vigilance of the Medical Superintendent and Visiting

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