

their own initiative, and in great measure at their own expense, in the training of which Assistant Medical Officer, Mr Maye, takes much interest". An advertisement appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* in 1893 for a "Male Attendant, capable of playing first violin in the band". Music was played during patients' meal-times either by the asylum band or an organist or a pianist. Even as late as 1920 the hospital advertised for a male nurse stating that "... previous experience was not necessary ... the successful applicant must be able to play the organ for the chapel services and also the piano in the orchestra". The hospital orchestra appears to have held sway until the introduction of the 'talkies' in 1935. Budden's history contains many vignettes into asylum life: the annual hospital farm statistics including the 48,982 eggs produced in 1934, the widespread risk of fire in the 1890s with open coal fires in the wards, gas lighting and highly polished wooden floors, the available activities in the 1920s and '30s ranging from eurhythmic dancing and Swedish drill to book-binding repairs and mending wireless sets, and the enormous difference in pay scales in 1912 for attendants and nurses, being £33 and £18 per annum respectively.

Reference is made to the foibles of men and women, whatever their station in life. The Superintendent before Dr Spence had to retire early on grounds of alcohol indulgence. When the original asylum was nearing completion, one official observed that the lead work was less in weight than had been specified. Moreover in some places cheap spruce wood had been used instead of the required Riga White deal. Then there was the time just before the Great War, when Dr Spence noted that the number of fowl on the farm was declining. A count was ordered, which resulted in 85 being traced and not the 127 stated in the stock book. It transpired then that the farm bailiff had been in financial difficulties at the time. A replacement was sought immediately.

This beautifully compiled work with its many plans and photographs will hopefully inspire others working in similar institutions to open up their archives and emulate David Budden's memorable achievement.

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### **Journal of Forensic Psychiatry**

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The publication of this new journal will be welcome as it meets the need for an academic journal to underpin the recent expansion of forensic psychiatry as a clinical specialty. Professor Bluglass, writing an introduction to the first edition, defines forensic psychiatry as "general psychiatry pertaining to the law", and at its core is the management of the mentally abnormal offender. This concern with patients and their management is welcomed as it contrasts with the approach of the American journals in the field which are mostly concerned with the interesting legal and moral questions that arise at the intersection of crime and mental disorder. This reflects the different nature of forensic psychiatry as practised in the USA where a forensic psychiatrist's task is to advise courts on the responsibility of people appearing before them, but not generally to treat patients. Yet, having read Professor Bluglass's definition of the subject matter, I was surprised that the longest article in the first edition covers a field which appears to lie outside this. Professor Mullen has written a thorough review of the effect of sexual abuse on the mental health of the victims. The article is interesting but it has to be asked on what basis this topic (the ugly word 'victimology' springs to mind) is legitimately part of forensic psychiatry. It can hardly be argued that the neurotic personality and sexual disorders described in the article can only be treated by forensic psychiatrists and I suspect that the attempt to claim victims as part of the speciality is a political one – it is aimed to avoid our being seen as too closely associated with criminals.

The most innovative section of this journal is called 'Legal Notes'. Here an academic lawyer reviews recent legal decisions relevant to the practice of psychiatry. This is the section that will be of most interest to the non-specialist as it covers the legal framework within which all psychiatrists must work. Although written by a lawyer there is a clear understanding of the nature of clinical practice. A book review section which allows ample space to its reviewers rounds off the first edition of this promising journal.

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