

FARM FOR INEBRIATES.

The time appeared to me to have arrived when this State should follow the lead of other States in adopting a more humane method of treating non-criminal addicts to intoxicating liquors and drugs, and to segregate them from criminal inebriates while under treatment.

I, therefore, on April 27, 1915, appointed a commission composed of Dr. Nathan R. Gorter, then Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City; Police Justices Charles R. Schirm and J. Frank Supplee, Jr.; George R. McCleary, of the Federated Charities, and Raymond E. Kennedy, of the Staff of a Baltimore newspaper, to investigate and examine into the question of establishing a farm for the treatment of inebriates, and to report to the Governor.

This Commission discussed the question with Dr. Henry M. Hurd and Dr. Adolf Meyer, of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, and Dr. Edward N. Brush, Superintendent of the Shepherd and Enoch-Pratt Hospital, and during the Conference of Charities and Corrections, held in Baltimore in May, 1915, consulted with two of the delegates who are experts on the subject, Dr. Erwin H. Neff, Superintendent of the Norfolk State Hospital, at Norfolk, Mass., and Dr. O. F. Lewis, Secretary of the New York State Prison Association; it also had a Committee visit the farm for inebriates at Norfolk, Mass., which contains 1,060 acres, and has about 700 inmates, where the most advanced methods of treatment appeared to be in operation.

The Committee recommends the establishment of a farm for inebriates in this State, and the adoption of the Massachusetts plan for treatment, by colonizing the inmates according to their more or less advanced habits, and combining medical treatment with outdoor work.

For this purpose the Commission recommends the purchase of a farm containing from 750 to 1,000 acres of land with improvements, easy of access to Baltimore, at a cost of not more than \$50,000, allowing out of this sum an amount for repairing, equipping and preparing for occupancy such build-