

Last Saturday an interesting competition took place at Stratford between representative teams of five divisions of the Great Eastern Railway Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The first prize of a Challenge Cup was awarded to the Norwich team; Stratford came second in order of merit.

The North Eastern Hospital for Children, in spite of rigid economy, resulting in a reduction by £400 in the ordinary expenditure of the year, is badly in need of funds; 701 in-patients were received and 47,313 out-patients treated. To accomplish so much work needs a good many "sinews of war" in the shape of subscriptions.

The Leprosy Commission at Cape Town has been at work for more than two years and has now presented a complete Report. They have examined over a hundred lepers from the colony at Robben Island, where the lepers are segregated. Hitherto the lepers have been rigorously separated from the healthy, having been at once removed from the mainland and placed on Robben Island. The Commissioners propose that an alteration should be made in this system whereby lepers of means may remain on the mainland, under proper supervision. This innovation is by no means popular in Cape Town, where there is a very natural horror of the danger of the spread of the disease by the establishing of so many possible centres of contagion.

The Birmingham Corporation is constantly in the van in all good works for the improvement of the masses, and is most progressive in sanitation. The latest scheme is the establishment of a truly model village, which exists for the accommodation of over a thousand of the workmen engaged on the new water-works on the borders of Radnor. The houses in the village are of wood and are of different types to suit young married couples and large families. The village boasts its own hospital, its own doctor, a post office, a savings bank, public baths, recreation hall and reading room. A missionary preaches for all sects and acts as the intellectual head of the community. This little Arcadia, whose only public-house is owned by the corporation and furnished with liquor which they buy and retail, should prove a centre of wholesomeness, both moral and physical.

We have received a copy of that excellent little monthly paper, *Misericordia*, the organ of the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses. Besides containing some very interesting reading matter and news from home and from foreign missions, it gives the fullest information as to all the meetings and services held in connection with the Guild. We understand that the editor is the Rev. Father Russell of St. Albans, whose interest in Nursing and Nurses is so well known. The paper is twopence monthly and enquiries as to its supply should be made to Miss Wood, 27, Percy Street, Tottenham Court Road.

Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company has long since celebrated its jubilee of awards for excellence. They have recently gained three gold medals from important exhibitions, the General Trades and Industrial Exhibition at Halifax, the Brewers' Exhibition at Manchester, and the General Trades and Industrial Exhibition at Stockton-on-Tees. These latest well-deserved recognitions of the value of Jeyes' compounds bring the total number of the medals that have been awarded them to the magnificent number of seventy-two. And we are sure there are many more to come.

Again Messrs. Jeyes have been entrusted with the disinfection of the National Rifle Association Camp at Bisley, Colonel Mackinnon having expressed, in a very flattering letter, the appreciation on the part of the council of the admirable manner in which the disinfection was conducted last year.

National Health Society.

GROSVENOR HOUSE MEETING, MAY 11TH, 1895.

ABSTRACT OF REMARKS BY DR. EDWARD SEATON.



AFTER commenting on the excellent course of instruction given by the lecturers appointed by the Society and the success achieved by Surrey students, Dr. Seaton proceeded to offer a few remarks under the following heads, viz.:

(1) The Advantages of Popular Teaching in matters relating to Public Health; (2) Sanitation as part of popular Teaching; (3) Village Nurses.

THE ADVANTAGES OF POPULAR TEACHING IN MATTERS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

This he illustrated by past experience in relation to improved dwellings for the working classes. In 1875 he had, at the suggestion of a well-known citizen of Nottingham, Mr. Richard Enfield, inaugurated lectures on health, especially in relation to the influence of dwellings and the necessity for sufficient light and air about them. At that time the Town Council of Nottingham was attempting to deal with unhealthy areas (rookeries) by street improvements. That was a highly important work, but it was still more important that the dwellings of the future should be built with sufficient air space about them. The Local Government Board has issued an admirable series of Model By-laws to ensure this, but it needed the force of local public opinion to secure their adoption and observance. Landowners and builders were a powerful class and they were generally more than sufficiently represented on Town Councils and Local Governing bodies.

Their views did not always coincide with those of the guardians of the public health in the essential matter of light and air about dwellings. For that reason public opinion needed to be created or aroused. He (Dr. Seaton) found that popular lectures were most useful for this purpose. He could not but think that in London they were much wanted as he had in the course of inquiries made about four years ago, under the directions of the Home Office, become acquainted with cases where lofty buildings, arranged on the flat system, had been allowed to be erected in the East end, under conditions that made it impossible that the lower dwelling rooms could ever be penetrated by the sun's rays.

There were other illustrations he could give of the advantages of popular teaching as to public preventive measures, e.g., the notification of infectious diseases which had become adopted throughout the whole county of Surrey in a voluntary manner.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)