

other cases were reported. Medical opinion is agreed that the cause of the epidemic is well pollution. A dozen nurses, in addition to the parish nurse engaged by Lord Rothschild, who has a mansion at Tring, are employed in caring for the sick.

Mr. Joseph Shaw, of Woodlands, Sandal Magna, has bequeathed £2,000 to the Wakefield Clayton Hospital, as well as his residuary estate which will, apparently, realize a large sum.

Sir William Preece, speaking at Chester on behalf of the work of the National Health Society, advocated the appointment of a Minister of Public Health, who should be the centre of all matters relating to sanitation, and to whom appeal could be made for information.

The trustees of Mr. James Brown Thomson who bequeathed nearly £80,000 to the educational and charitable institutions of the city of Glasgow, the apportioning of which was, with the exception of £10,000, left to their discretion, have now made the following grants. The University of Glasgow, £10,000, the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, £6,000, the Western Infirmary £4,500, the Victoria Infirmary £3,000, the Royal Hospital for Sick Children £2,000, the West of Scotland Technical College £2,000, the Glasgow Eye Infirmary, the Glasgow Samaritan Hospital for Women, the Glasgow Lock Hospital, and the Glasgow Maternity Hospital, each £1,000, and St. Mungo's College, Glasgow, £500.

The trustees of the late Mr. W. W. Pollok, of Rhindmuir, have also intimated the following bequests: to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary and to the Victoria Infirmary, each £10,000 to the Western Infirmary and the Blind Asylum, each £5,000, and to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary £10,000.

A conference, at which the Right Honble. the Lord Mayor presided, took place last week in Dublin, between the Public Health Committee of the Corporation, and the representatives of the sanitary authorities of the county, with reference to establishing hospital accommodation for infectious diseases, and if possible providing a convalescent home in connection therewith. The following resolution proposed by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, and seconded by Joseph Mooney, Esq., J.P., was carried unanimously:—"That this conference is strongly of opinion that in the interests of the public health it is absolutely necessary to provide one or more hospitals for the treatment of cases of infectious disease arising in the City and County of Dublin, and one or two convalescent houses in connection therewith. In order to carry out this work we think the sanitary authorities should unite and appoint a sub-committee, representative of each board or council, for the purpose of preparing a scheme and selecting a site or sites, and that a resolution agreeing to bear the expense proportionately of building and maintaining the hospitals should be adopted by each of the bodies concerned. This resolution to be sent to each of the sanitary authorities, with a view to ascertaining whether they would join in the project, or not, their decision to be reported to the secretary of this conference in time for the adjourned meeting to be held on Tuesday, the 3rd October, at 4 p.m.

The French Conseil d'Etat, acting during the recess of the Chambers has voted a credit of 300,000 francs, to organize a proper measure of defence against the possible invasion of France by the plague.

It would seem that in Portugal, as well as in India, medical men engaged on plague duty, besides the risk which they run of contracting the disease, are in some danger of injury from personal violence. Recently, a mob in Oporto stoned the carriages of the doctors who were going to make a post-mortem examination on the body of one of the plague victims. Two Portuguese doctors were slightly injured. Three arrests were made.

The British Legation at Bucharest reports:—Beyrout declared infected with plague, and Levant coast as far as Egypt suspected.

The yellow fever epidemic at Key West is steadily spreading, and the town being situated below the frost line, it is thought that the disease is bound to run its course.

Speaking at the opening of the Parel Plague Laboratory, His Excellency the Governor of Bombay said that officers of all kinds had done splendid work in connection with the plague epidemic. The conduct of the medical profession had been equally heroic and beyond all praise, whether in the highly scientific and interesting work in the laboratory, or in their careful attention to the sick in camps or hospitals, or working away knee-deep in slush and mud in remote villages in the rains.

## The Health Congress.

THE Public Health Congress was opened last week at Blackpool, the presidential address being given by the Marquis of Lorne. The Mayor of Blackpool presided. After speaking of the advances made of recent years in science, Lord Lorne went on to enquire what was the value of all the drugs and all the doctors, unless there was good nursing, and spoke of Miss Nightingale's service in placing trained nursing on its present basis. Great as were the achievements of such men as Lister and Simpson, nursing was a necessary complement to their work and the public were greatly indebted to the women who trained as nurses. No finer position existed than that of a woman holding in her hands the threads of life and death, and tending the patient with no eye to criticise the actions done in the dark hours. He also emphasised the need of an efficient hospital training for nurses. A partially-trained nurse might be cheap for the moment, but was expensive in the end.

Many ladies attended the session held in the Indian Pavilion, when Miss Edith Johnson spoke of the care of children during infancy. She deplored the growing tendency of mothers to shun the duty of feeding their infants and said that unless there were powerful reasons to the contrary, a woman was not worthy the name of mother who neglected her duty in this respect.

Other questions dealt with in the Ladies' Section were the national necessity of physical training, the care of the feeble-minded and the housing of the middle class poor.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)