

and meetings; (6) to publish a periodical to be sent free of charge to all members containing the reports of the work done by the International Central Commission and discussing other subjects of interest to the cause.

"Every country is represented by at least two members, and countries with more than two million inhabitants are entitled to one or more representatives for every five million people; but the total number of members for a single country must not exceed five.

"Here in North America we have perhaps not done quite as good work as our brethren in Europe. In Canada, however, though your country has a smaller population than the United States, greater strides in the anti-tuberculosis work have been made than in the latter country. You have already a Canadian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, while we have but a few small societies striving to do the same work you are doing. They are the Pennsylvania, the Colorado, the Ohio, the Maine, the Minnesota, and the Illinois Societies for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. Besides these State associations, there exist in Baltimore a Laennec Society for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, a similar one in St. Louis, composed of the alumni of the City Hospital; a Cleveland City, a Buffalo City, and Erie County (N.Y.) Society, and in New Hampshire the Suncook Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. There exists as yet no American or United States society for the prevention of tuberculosis. It grieves me to make this statement, and I do it not without a sense of humiliation. But I am full of hope, and I trust that the example which you, our good neighbours, are setting us to-day will not be without fruit. I devoutly hope that some day in the near future we may even enjoy a union meeting of the present Canadian and the future United States Societies for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. I look forward to the time when, by a combined effort, we may be able to combat tuberculosis as a disease of the masses throughout this continent."

Dr. Knopf in a recent address demonstrated that communities would gain financially by the establishment of sanatoria in which to place their consumptive poor. He said:—

"I will take as an example New York State, where it is estimated that there are about 50,000 tuberculous invalids. Of these probably one-fifth belong to that class of patients which sooner or later become a burden to the community. These 10,000 consumptives, absolutely poor, will sooner or later have to be taken care of by the public general hospitals. While they may not stay in one hospital for twelve months continuously, they will certainly occupy a bed in one of the public institutions for that length of time before they die.

According to the last annual announcement of the public charity hospitals of New York, the average cost per patient per day in the general hospitals was 1 dol. 16 cents. Thus the cost to the Commonwealth will be 4,234,000 dols. per year for caring for the 10,000 consumptives.

"What would be the expense if they were taken care of in a sanatorium? Experience in this country and abroad has demonstrated that the maintenance of incipient cases in well-conducted sanatoria can well be carried out for 1 dol. per day. If these 10,000 were to be sent to a sanatorium in time, at least 6,000 of them would be lastingly cured after a maximum sojourn of 250 days, at an average expense of 250 dols. per capita. Thus, for 1,500,000 dols. 6,000 individuals would be made again breadwinners and useful citizens. If the remaining 4,000 invalids were kept in the sanatorium one year before they died, it would cost 1,460,000 dols. Thus, taking away from the tenement districts 10,000 consumptives, curing more than half of them and caring for the other half, and destroying 10,000 foci of infection will cost 2,960,000 dols. If we do not take care of them in the earlier stages of their disease, they will probably all die; but before dying they will have cost the community 4,234,000 dols."

Gynæcological Examinations.

It will interest nurses to know that the first examination of the British Gynæcological Society, both for its Gynæcological Nursing certificate and its Maternity Nursing certificate, will be held in June. The written part of the examination will be held on Thursday, June 4th, in London, and, if a sufficient number of candidates apply, the examination will be held at the same hour in Newcastle-on-Tyne and in Birmingham. Those candidates who are successful in passing the written examination will be required to present themselves for the *viv voce* examination in London on June 18th; and the same afternoon the successful candidates will sign the Roll of the Society, and be presented with their certificates. The conditions of the examination and application forms can be obtained by sending a stamped and directed envelope to Dr. Aarons, 14, Stratford Place, London, W.

We cordially congratulate the British Gynæcological Society on being the first medical body to establish so useful a principle as that of local examination for nurses. We may usefully remind our readers also that the present year has, in accordance with custom, been made a year of grace by the Society, during which both the conditions, and doubtless the examinations also, will be more lenient than they will hereafter be, so that it would be well for as many as possible who desire to obtain either or both of these valuable certificates to become candidates as soon as possible.

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