

If other communes which have land in malarial regions imitate the good example of Rome, there are grounds for hope of gradually putting the foe to flight and of ridding our most beautiful and potentially our richest land of its scourge, for it is capable of becoming most rich and productive if the peasants who work it can be enabled to remain on it all the year. Such a peasant as ours, working miracles wherever he emigrates, must be assured in the great estates where he works of healthful dwellings, which, with the guarantee of prompt, assiduous, and gratuitous treatment by means of quinine, will assure him a tranquil existence and prosperity where he now finds only illness and death. Then the colonisation of great estates will become an accomplished fact. With this aim, the concurrence of the State in the building of rural dwellings has been secured in the project of reclaiming the Campagna, and a new sanitary law compels proprietors to construct and maintain protected dwellings or shelters in malarial regions.

In order to educate the people, without whose co-operation laws, and especially sanitary laws, are ineffective, conferences have been held in the principal cities of the kingdom, and in the country 42,000 leaflets have been distributed teaching the new principles and new methods for warding off fever.

Giustino Fortunato warned us long ago that malaria is the essential problem for Italy, and that it plays a capital rôle in the urgent and menacing questions of southern countries.

Our Five Guinea Prize.

We have been asked in connection with our Five Guinea Prize Competition whether, in order to enter for it, the competitor must be an annual subscriber through the office of the Journal or can obtain it through a local agent. In order to be eligible for the prize the Journal must be ordered for a year through our office, 11, Adam Street, Strand. In reply to the question as to whether maternity work and its complications is an eligible topic, we may say that articles on any branch of nursing will be considered. Professional writers are eligible as competitors. One reader writes that the condition as to "sketches" puts her out of the running. We may point out, therefore, that illustrations, not sketches, is the word used. These may be photographs.

The Westminster Hospital Bazaar.

The bazaar in aid of the funds of the Westminster Hospital has been very successful. The expenses amounted to £2,000, and when these are defrayed there will be the substantial sum of £7,000 to hand over to the hospital authorities, a matter for congratulation to all concerned.

The Select Committee on Nursing.

The Select Committee of the House of Commons on Nursing met to take evidence on Thursday, May 25th. There were present Mr. H. J. Tennant (in the chair), Lord Morpeth, Sir John Batty Tuke, Sir John Stirling Maxwell, Mr. Pierpoint, Dr. Ambrose, Major Balfour, Mr. Charles Hobhouse, Mr. Mount, and Mr. Charles Douglas.

The first witness called was Dr. Hyla Greaves, who said he was in practice at Bournemouth; his views had been formed as the result of twenty-five years' experience as a medical man, five spent in Liverpool and twenty in Bournemouth. He was convinced of the necessity for the State Registration of Nurses. From the point of view of the doctor, he considered the medical profession required a guarantee, before sending a nurse to a patient, that she had passed through a three years' course of efficient training. He was of opinion that such a system would improve the status of nurses. In regard to the methods of examination, the examination could be worked by a central Council appointed to carry out the Registration of Nurses, and to supervise and direct nursing education.

In regard to fees, he had not gone into the question closely; he considered that a fee of from £2 2s. to £3 3s. might be sufficient, and would not constitute a hardship to nurses.

In regard to the nursing in rural districts, he considered that thoroughly-trained nurses should be employed. District nurses had charge of the patients, and their work was often of a very responsible character, more especially as they were not so closely supervised as the nurses of patients in better circumstances. He thought it should be financially possible for the poor to have the advantage of highly-skilled nurses, as they were frequently provided by charitable subscriptions.

Bournemouth was a resort for sick people; they frequently brought their nurses with them, and the witness said that, in consequence, he came in contact with large numbers of nurses trained in all parts of the kingdom. Some of these took a fancy to the place and stayed on, working either in connection with institutions or on their own account.

The special point which he wished to make in this connection was the great discrepancy he observed in the training which these various nurses received, both as to quality and quantity.

It was not, in his opinion, possible that a thorough training could be given in less than three years' consecutive nursing education. In regard to a bright woman being able to assimilate the necessary training in a shorter period, the same argument had been applied to medical education, but though there might be possible exceptions, he held that this period of observation of the sick was necessary, and he would insist on the same length in all cases.

Last winter, the witness said, he took the chair at a public meeting in Bournemouth on the subject of State Registration of Nurses, which was largely attended by all sections of the community. He then particularly requested an expression of opinion from any present who were adverse to the principle of State Registration, but no such opinion was expressed, and a resolution in favour of the principle was carried without one dissentient. He believed all the doctors and nurses in

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