

Annotation.

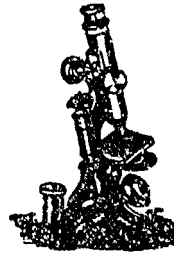
THE CONGRESS OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

The London Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health, which is to be held from Wednesday, July 19th, to Tuesday, July 25th, will have as President of the Congress the Marquis of Londonderry, K.G., Lord President of the Council, and President of the Board of Education. The Institute, which is under the patronage of the King, has also secured a most influential list of Vice-Presidents. The Congress will be conducted in sections under the headings—(A) Preventive Medicine, (B) Municipal Administration of the Education Acts, (C) Child Study and School Hygiene, (D) Engineering and Building Construction, (E) Bacteriology and Chemistry, (F) Veterinary Hygiene, (G) Tropical Medicine, (H) Naval and Military Hygiene. Some of the papers which hold the most interest for nurses are on "The Waste of Infant Life," "Typhoid and Allied Fevers in the Tropics," "The Various Causes of Ulceration of the Bowels in the Tropics," and "Hospital Ships." The meetings will be held either in King's College or at the Polytechnic, Regent Street, W.

The Managers of the Metropolitan Asylums Board have also made arrangements by which visits can be paid to various institutions under their control, including the Small-pox Diagnosing Station at South Wharf, and thence by ambulance boat to the Joyce Green Small-pox Hospital. An exhibition of Sanitary and Educational Appliances will be held at the Polytechnic in Regent Street, which will open on Wednesday, July 19th, and remain open until the following Saturday week. A variety of social functions have also been arranged. The inaugural meeting, by the kind permission of H. Beerbohm Tree, Esq., will be held at His Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, on Wednesday, July 19th, at 3 p.m., when the Marquis of Londonderry will deliver his Inaugural Address as President. On Thursday, July 20th, an opportunity will be afforded of viewing the newly-erected Bacteriological, Pathological, and Chemical Laboratories of the Royal Institute, which are probably the most complete in the metropolis. Membership of the Congress can be obtained by a subscription of one guinea, or by ladies accompanying members or delegates 10s. 6d. each. The headquarters of the Institute are in Russell Square, W.C., and the Hon. Secretary, Dr. James Cantlie.

Medical Matters.

USE AND ABUSE OF THE STOMACH TUBE.



Dr. Amster (South Head and Sarg) discusses this all-important subject. According to him the diagnostic purposes of the tube are:—

1. To diagnose permeability of the esophagus (foreign bodies, &c.).
2. To test certain conditions of the esophagus, as structure, dilatation, &c.
3. To define the position and size of the stomach.
4. To establish the motor power of the stomach.
5. To withdraw the stomach contents for the purpose of chemical examination.

The therapeutic purposes the tube can be made to serve are:—

1. For lavage in stagnation of the esophagus (dilatation or diverticle).
2. For the dilatation of stricture of the esophagus and the instillation of oil.
3. For the removal of poisonous substances ingested.
4. For lavage in dilatation of the stomach.
5. For lavage in pylorospasms which are inoperable or where the patient requires to undergo radical operation.
6. For lavage in gastritis with an abundance of mucous secretion.
7. For lavage in gastric neurosis for its psychic effects.
8. For lavage in gastro-succorhea or Reichman's disease.
9. For lavage in carefully selected cases of pregnancy where other measures have failed.

The introduction of the tube into the stomach is contra-indicated in the following conditions:—

1. All local and constitutional conditions which could be aggravated or endangered by the irritation and exertion caused by the tube. Among these are heart disease, Angina-pectoris, aneurysm, recent hæmorrhages, advanced pulmonary tuberculosis or emphysema, apoplexy, anæmia of the brain, epilepsy, bad cases of pregnancy and fevers.
2. Stomach and intestinal affections that can be diagnosed without the tube.
3. During menstrual period when stomach contents show deviation from intermenstrual period.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)