

better health, and improved hygienic conditions, it is necessary to appeal to the educated classes." In every day life it seemed that *after* a death or deaths from typhoid, the drains were taken up and put in order. So many women were entirely ignorant of the workmanship of the house, and the way in which the drainage and water supply should be arranged. This valuable teaching was left entirely out of the curriculum of all our schools and colleges. This was not right, and should be altered. To accomplish this it was necessary to rouse the consciences of the parents—the mothers especially—to demand that their daughters at school should receive the necessary instruction to qualify them for future householders. Education was a question of supply and demand, and, if the demand were made, the reply would soon come in the introduction of personal and domestic Hygiene as a class study in our schools and colleges.

To the ordinary mind, Sanitary Science suggests only drains and pipes; these are but the small details of a large subject. Ventilation, good and wholesome food are included, and the methods by which man can be guarded against what Dr. Newsholme calls his two foes—damp and sewer gas.

The mitigation of the evil results of injurious trades was another important aim. It has been said that the keepers of the fine old Roman sewers give us the prototype of the modern Sanitary Inspector. While the fact of the description in the *Iliad* of the disinfection by Ulysses of slaughter-houses by sulphur and scraping, prevented sanitation from being regarded as new-fangled. Forty years ago we knew only the A.B.C. of Public Health, and the lecturer quoted a doggerel couplet in illustration:—

"When good Queen Victoria came to the throne,
Little of microbes and bacilli was known!"

The Statute of 1848 was the first with regard to Public Health.

In speaking of the death rate as being a guide to the health conditions of the people, Mrs. Goslett quoted Dr. Lyon Playfair, who said that the death-rate is very deceptive, inasmuch as it tells only the story of wrecks cast on the shore, and leaves out the barks wrecked on the billows of life. It would be new to many that only forty years ago in many of our large towns, water was sold in the streets at one penny per bucket, and this owing to defective water supply. When Sir Henry Acland was quite a young man at Oxford he was struck with the curious fact of an outbreak of cholera in one Institution in the town, while in another apparently equally unhealthy there were no cases. But the mystery was explained by his discovery that in the prison where the cholera cases occurred, the soup for the inmates was made with sewer water.

In England and Wales there were at present every year twenty thousand cases of diarrhoea, which Dr. Newsholme stated were due to the drinking of unboiled water.

The Lecturer spoke of the good work being done by the National Health Society and the Sanitary Institute. At present, many Health Lectures were held in various towns, but she often heard it urged by educated people that they could not allow their daughters to attend if it happened to be raining.

Mrs. Goslett described a somewhat too superficial

teaching of Hygiene, as one which would be apt to result in a harmful smattering, which is the evil of the age.

At the conclusion of the address, Mrs. Dowson, M.D., proposed a resolution to the effect that the audience was of opinion that Sanitary Science was a subject which claimed the attention of the women of the upper classes. Mrs. Dowson took exception to "upper classes" being inserted, and the audience clearly shewed by their applause that they were entirely with her in the amendment.

Mrs. Dowson strongly urged the teaching of all health subjects to women, and said that a large amount of disease would thus be prevented. She instanced a recent case of serious illness in a young child which she traced to the fact that it was in the habit of playing on a balcony above the ventilating shaft of a drain. It appeared to her that hygiene might be added to the routine education of girls. At present dancing and piano-playing were regarded as necessities. As a doctor, she ought not to object to such a physical exercise as dancing and as piano-playing often degenerated into.

Mrs. Westlake proposed a vote of thanks to Lady Priestley for her attendance, and to Mrs. Goslett for her address. She heartily approved of the scheme Lady Priestley is originating for the improvement of girls' education.

Mrs. Scharlieb seconded the vote of thanks.

Lady Priestley spoke of an investigation of Sir William Priestley's with regard to puerperal fever, from which he finds that in hospitals and lying-in Institutions the disease has practically died out; but in private houses, owing to defective sanitation, the mortality is almost as high as ever.

Miss Fay Lankester proposed very cordial thanks to Mrs. Scharlieb for having kindly granted the use of her house for the meeting, and said the movement had hers and the National Health Society's warm sympathy.

Lady Baker in a bright speech told of the work she has accomplished in Dorset in the cause of health.

Among the audience were Mrs. Fleming Baxter, Miss Scharlieb, Miss Pycroft of the London County Council, Miss Annesley, and Miss Henrietta Kenealy, Miss Squire, and many others interested in the woman question.

Science Notes.

THE DESTRUCTIVE EFFECTS OF SMALL PROJECTILES.

We imagine that many persons, who are ready to explain at a moment's notice, and with a confidence born of ignorance, almost every phenomenon that comes within their experience, might feel inclined to be scornful at the idea of a learned Society assembling to hear a lecture inquiring into the reasons why few persons survive being shot in the head by a bullet. This inquiry, however, formed the main subject of a most interesting discourse and numerous experiments by Prof. Victor Horsley, F.R.S., at the Royal Institution, a few weeks ago.

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