

6,200 children. These schools are given by private munificence, and are supported partly from the public funds and the balance by donations from charitable people, and cost the Society 130,000 dollars during the year to maintain. The children are taught such manual work as they are fitted for—such as cooking, household work, sewing, paper folding, drawing, modelling, and wood working. Only those children are allowed to attend who are so poor, ragged, and neglected that they cannot go to the public schools, or where there is no room for them in the public schools. This work has been in operation for forty years. More than 100,000 children have been started aright in life from the schools of the Society. The “placing out” system, with its corps of trained, experienced and careful agents, finds good homes in the country for these homeless ones. Forty thousand young and middle-aged men and women are now living honest, prosperous lives in Western and Southern States, who would otherwise have remained to drift about New York.

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Michigan attempts to restrict the spread of contagious diseases by forbidding infected persons to enter public places. Massachusetts interdicts the sale of clothing made in unhealthy places.

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The inspection and regulation of mines, with reference to the health and safety of employes, has received much attention of late, but probably the most comprehensive legislation on the question yet enacted is that of Pennsylvania, framed during the past year by a commission chosen for the purpose. The law undertakes to put in force a complete system of inspection and supervision in all anthracite coal mines employing more than ten persons. There are minute directions as to construction of shafts and passages, machinery, engine boilers, hoisting apparatus, and ventilating flues. No boys under fourteen, and no women, may be employed in the mines in any capacity. Indiana also excludes these classes.

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The late Sir William Macleay left a sum of £12,000 to the Sydney University to found a chair in Bacteriology. By the terms of his bequest it would be incumbent on the University to establish a laboratory and a museum, necessitating a large outlay, which the University at present cannot afford. It has been necessary, therefore, to return the bequest to the executors of Sir W. Macleay's will; the money will now revert to the Linnæan Society to maintain a bacteriologist who will carry on bacteriological investigations and also take pupils.

The method of the election of the honorary medical officers of the Melbourne Hospital continues to excite critical hostility and rouses more interest than a parliamentary contest. Cards and circulars from the competing candidates are scattered broadcast, and “button-holing” and log-rolling is pursued unblushingly. Most of the candidates have large election committees, who make it their business to see that every voter (of whom there are between 4,000 and 5,000) is interviewed on behalf of their candidate. All kinds of influences are brought to bear to secure votes. Nationality, religious creed, social position, everything but a man's professional qualification or fitness for the position or past services is a reason for giving him a vote. The whole business is a scandal which it seems hopeless to reform. The present and previous staff have supported measures to alter the system of election, but nothing is done, and every election is worse than the preceding.

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The Russian National Health Society has selected May 2nd (14th) of next year as the day on which to commemorate the centenary of the introduction of vaccination. The Society intends to observe the centenary by offering four prizes for the best monographs upon vaccination; by publishing a history of the practice in Russia; by translating Jenner's works into Russian; and by holding an exhibition of objects connected with vaccination. The day itself will be kept by the holding of a special meeting of the Society.

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The present month is, says the *Western Morning News*, to witness the inauguration of a strange experiment at Peking, in connection with the Anting Hospital and Huiwen College there. At the latter the English language is taught, and when Chinese students have been desirous of taking up the study of Western medicine and practical surgery, it has been necessary for them to first acquire sufficient proficiency in English for them to do so. Henceforth five professors will teach special branches of these subjects in Chinese, and entrance to the academy devoted to this work will be open to those who have not learned English. As the Chinese Generalissimo of Manchuria has resorted to a foreign physician during a severe illness which Chinese pharmacy did not benefit, it is evident that the advantages of Western science are becoming better appreciated, and there is doubtless a future of wondrous usefulness before the Chinese Medical Academy which Dr. Robert Coltman is establishing at the Chinese capital.

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