

During his visit to Paris the Shah of Persia received in audience Dr. Galezowski and his pupil, Dr. Ismael Khan, who have been authorised to organise in Persia three special institutions for affections of the eye, to be established at Teheran, Ispahan, and Taurum.

The epidemic of cholera which for the last two months has been prevalent in the Nile Delta is of an unusually fatal character, 80 per cent. of the cases having ended fatally. The total number of cases since July 15th has been nearly 21,000, of which nearly 17,000 have resulted in death.

A disease of a suspicious character has made its appearance in Spain, at Pazes and Boidel, in the province of Pontevedra. The doctors believe it to be cholera, although certain cases show yellow fever symptoms.

Among the recipients of honorary degrees from the University of Christiania on September 6th during the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of Niels Hewick Abel, the Norwegian mathematician, were Professor George Darwin, Professor Forsyth, Lord Kelvin, Lord Rayleigh, and Sir George Gabriel Stokes.

It has been decided to appoint a woman house surgeon each year on the staff of the General Hospital, Toronto. Two women physicians will also be appointed as registrars.

Two Chinese women who graduated in medicine in the United States are now in charge of a hospital in their own country in Kingkiang. The hospital, with all its appliances, is modern, aseptic, and possesses every convenience. Seven thousand patients have been treated during the one year of its existence.

In a contribution to the *British Medical Journal*, Sir Felix Semon, C.V.O., in an appreciation of the late Professor Virchow, whose pupil he was, says:—"To see my dear old master in his most gentle and most genial mood, one had to see him in the circle of his family and friends. At great public gatherings, such as the International Medical Congresses, of which he was a regular visitor, and at which he naturally formed the centre of attraction, he was amiable and kind enough, although occasionally, when people who had no earthly claim on his time and attention bothered him over-much, he disposed of them in very curt and peremptory fashion. In the course of political or medical discussions, when his ire had been roused, he was a truly formidable opponent, demolishing his antagonists, whilst hardly ever raising his voice, by the force of inexorable logic, accurate information, and icy irony; whilst at other occasions when he disdained to descend into the arena, the mere half-amused, half-sarcastic expression of his face was enough to confound his adversaries. But the most charming side of his character—his love for his family, his indulgence for his friends, his chivalrous kindness towards women—were only revealed to a favourite few. His family simply adored him—his wife, his faithful companion for more than fifty years, had no other thought beside him, and those whom he honoured by his friendship vied with one another in making his path as smooth as they could."

The Sanitary Congress.

Many interesting conferences on a variety of subjects were held at the Sanitary Congress at Manchester last week.

THE SMOKE PROBLEM.

Of prominent interest amongst them was a lecture given in Whitworth Hall by Dr. W. N. Shaw, dealing with the problem of smoke in cities. He regarded smoke as a species of domestic or industrial refuse which had to be removed somehow or other. We all, he said, acted with recklessness in respect of our smoke. We threw it into the atmosphere and left it to chance, whether or not it injured our neighbours. Domestic smoke was the most serious item to be reckoned with in considering the smoke question. In fact, it was two-thirds of the problem. The proposal to remove fog by the removal of foggy air seemed to him to come perilously near to a scheme for sweeping the Atlantic with a mop. It would be just as reasonable to throw all our refuse into the streets, and, when it had accumulated beyond endurance, to demand of men of science that they should provide showers to wash it away.

Would ratepayers, he asked, be willing to expend a sum equivalent to a tenpenny rate to eliminate smoke from the atmosphere of London or Manchester? The whole cost of a day's fog had been estimated at from £20,000 to £50,000, and the cost of fogs per annum had been set at from three to five million pounds. If these estimates were accurate a tenpenny rate would obviously be very cheap. He advocated the treatment of smoke by municipal chimneys.

THE CHURCH AND SANITATION.

The Rev. J. W. Horsley contributed a paper on "The Church's Duty in Regard to Sanitation." He said a religion that bade men live by faith alone, with their chief aim the salvation of their souls, would never fully promote social reform. To preach temperance, soberness, and chastity to dwellers in insanitary dens without attempting to ameliorate their conditions was more than a futility; it was an irreligious absurdity.

THE PROPER FEEDING OF WOMEN WORKERS.

In the ladies' section a paper on "Restaurants for Women Workers" was read by Miss L. M. O'Kell, sanitary inspector, Paddington, who said that the existing restaurants did not meet the requirements of the working woman. Her spending capacity was small, the demands on her strength were many, and proper feeding was essential. Unsuitable feeding caused not only the anæmia and attendant evils so prevalent amongst young women of the working class, but moral deterioration followed habitual physical neglect. Too often the drink habit was formed by women as a result of systematic semi-starvation. She held that the remedy lay in the provision of special restaurants for women workers where substantial meals could be obtained at suitable prices.

The paper gave rise to a long discussion, the principal speaker being Miss E. A. Barnett, who insisted that they must be most careful not to make the mistake of doing something in the name of philanthropy which would really resolve itself into a rate in aid of wages. She pointed out that if women workers were fed more cheaply it would be set up as a pretext for offering them lower wages. There was no more

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