

and I will conclude by saying that every physician in employing either pure cultures of lactic acid organisms, commercial sour milk, or home-made fermented milk, should make free use of the microscope, so as to know just what he is giving. One should also experiment with the different products, and carefully note the results. What we are now in urgent need of is a record of experience resulting from accurate, conservative, and extensive clinical observation; and it is to be hoped that this will soon be forthcoming.

Peace and Goodwill.

The King and Queen received at Buckingham Palace on Monday morning representative delegates from the International Peace Congress, which has met in London this week. Lord Courtney presented an address, which contained expressions of profound thanks to the King, who it said had earned the proud title of "The Peacemaker." "One common object," the address proceeded, "brings us together; the redemption of the world from the curse of international enmity and war, the promotion of legality and upright dealing between nations, and the desire to combine the peoples of the world together in bonds of confraternity and mutual aid. We cordially re-echo, Sir, your Majesty's recent words that 'it is in times of peace that the happiness, prosperity, and progress of your people can best be increased and the standard of religion and morality can be raised.'"

HIS MAJESTY'S REPLY.

The King, in reply, said: "It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, the representatives of the Universal Congress of Peace, and to receive your address. There is nothing from which I derive more sincere gratification than the knowledge that my efforts in the cause of international peace and goodwill have not been without fruit, and the consciousness of the generous appreciation which they have received both from my own people and from those of other countries. Rulers and statesmen can set before themselves no higher aim than the promotion of mutual good understanding and cordial friendship among the nations of the world. It is the surest and most direct means whereby humanity may be enabled to realise its noblest ideals, and its attainment will ever be the object of my own constant endeavours. I rejoice to think that your international organisation in which are represented all the principal civilised countries of the world is labouring in the same field, and I pray that the blessing of God may attend your labours."

Progress of State Registration.

When we wrote in the beginning of the Parliamentary Session that "this is to be a Registration year," we hardly realised how strenuous was to be the political work—which the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses would be called upon to accomplish. Suffice it to say that believing in their cause Matrons and Nurses in great numbers have shown exemplary energy, and the Session stands adjourned with a splendid record to their score.

In February they opened their campaign with a great meeting at Caxton Hall, London, at which Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson convinced all who heard her address that it would be good that Nursing should be organised by the State. In March they petitioned the Legislature in favour of State Registration. In April they worked loyally to save the profession from the disastrous Nurses' Directory Bill, promoted by the anti-registration party. In May success attended their efforts, when this intolerable measure was defeated in the House of Lords. In June, encouraged by the debate on Registration in the House of Lords, they approached Lord Ampthill, and he consented to introduce the Nurses' Registration Bill into the House of Lords. This was done, and on July 6th it passed its second reading, and at once entered the arena of practical politics. The Bill reached its Committee stage on July 21st, when Lord Crewe, the Government leader in the House of Lords, put forward a number of well-considered Amendments, which were agreed to "without prejudice," and the Bill was ordered to be printed and re-committed for further discussion in the Autumn Session.

All this sounds very easy and satisfactory, but, excepting by the few who have necessarily borne the heat and burden of the day, it is difficult to realise the amount of brain work, and clerical drudgery which it has entailed. And there must be no cessation of effort if legislation worth having is to be won. Early in September earnest consideration must be given by the State Society to the proposed Amendments. At all costs the Act must extend to Ireland. In the meantime, we advise members to obtain a copy of the Bill as it stands, and also of the Debate in the House of Lords, on the 21st ult., from Wymann and Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and to give earnest consideration to them.

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