

The National Tuberculosis Conference and Exhibition.

The National Tuberculosis Conference and Exhibition, held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, last week, from February 16th to 19th, had for its object "the work of arousing the public in Great Britain to a sense of the magnitude of the evil of consumption, to a knowledge of its preventability, and to a determination to prevent it." Many interesting papers were presented by medical men and women, and others, and it is regrettable that more effective measures were not taken to secure a better attendance at both Conference and Exhibition. As the representative of one leading firm remarked, "the Exhibition is all right, but the attendance is all wrong."

Amongst the exhibiting firms were:—

THE SANITAS CO., LTD., Locksley Street, Limehouse, E., with whose excellent disinfectants nurses are well acquainted.

MELLIN'S FOOD, LTD., were well to the fore with their well known preparations, a speciality being Mellin's Food Biscuits, crisp, nourishing, and inviting to young and old alike.

BENDLE'S MEAT-PORT SYNDICATE, LTD., 41, Seething Lane, E. C., showed their Meat-Port Nutrient, which is made from old tawny Alto Douro port and pure predigested meat substance, which promises to be a most useful addition to the dietary in many cases of illness.

SCOTT AND BOWNE, LTD., 10-11, Stonecutter Street, E.C., were, as usual, in evidence with their admirable "Scott's Emulsion."

ALLEN AND HANBURY'S, LTD., 48, Wigmore Street, W., had, as usual, an interesting exhibit, including "Sauerin" Tablets and Apparatus for making lactic fermented milk.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT CO., LTD., exhibited their well-known preparations, Lemco, Oxo, and Nursing Oxo, the latter, which is peptonised and unflavoured, being specially adapted for invalids.

JEYES' SANITARY COMPOUNDS CO., LTD., showed their many preparations of Cyllin, which, as a non-toxic bactericide, has gained a deservedly strong hold on public favour.

VIROL, LTD., 152, Old Street, E.C., were eloquent as to the value of their preparation of this name, which is increasingly being used in large hospitals. One eminent surgeon, we were informed, prescribes it as a routine practice for all his operation cases.

GARROULD'S, Hospital Contractors, 150, Edgware Road, W., exhibited, amongst many other interesting things, their "Patent Zymotic Face Protector," a shield made of thin aluminium, with transparent outlook, which protects the face from infectious matter or involuntary expectoration. The shield, which can be sterilised, costs 10s. 6d.

DOWN BROS., LTD., 21, St. Thomas' Street, S.E., had many interesting exhibits on view, notably Vernon's Clinical Thermometer, specially designed for use under the tongue; a glass catheter tube, in which the catheters are sterilised by means of a formalin tablet introduced into the cork; and Hale White's tongue depressor, with glass shield attached.

Professional Review.

A SYSTEM OF SYPHILIS.

A book dealing with syphilis, concerning the nature and effects of which the large majority of trained nurses are profoundly ignorant, although in the course of their work they often come in contact with patients suffering from this disease, or its effects, must be regarded with interest by them, for knowledge is power, and inefficient work, which is the result of ignorance, is inexcusable in persons professing to be skilled. The book, which will eventually consist of at least six volumes, of which the first two have appeared, is published by Henry Frowde, Oxford University Press, and Hodder and Stoughton, Warwick Square, E.C. The Editors are Mr. D'Arcy Power, F.R.C.S., and Dr. J. Keogh Murphy, F.R.C.S., who are greatly to be congratulated on the way in which the book has been produced, and the beautiful direct colour photographs, now used for the first time to illustrate clinical conditions.

The authors have secured a distinguished group of contributors, including Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, "the father of modern syphilology in England," who writes the introduction to the first volume. Other contributors are Dr. Iwan Bloch, Professor Elie Metchnikoff, Chef de Service de Microbiologie, Institut Pasteur; Dr. F. W. Andrewes, F.R.C.P.; Colonel F. W. Lambkin, R.A.M.C.; Mr. A. Shillitoe, F.R.C.S.; and Dr. G. F. Still, F.R.C.P.

The contributors to the second volume are Mr. D'Arcy Power, Colonel Lambkin, and Dr. W. J. Gow, F.R.C.P. In their preface, the editors point out that "the aspects of syphilis are protean, and its results are seen in every tissue of the body," that "there is some repetition, especially in regard to the treatment of syphilis. Such repetition was thought to be a good feature, since the prevention and cure of the disease are of the first importance to the community, and methods which can be carried out in the public services and in our great charities are not always suitable or desirable in private practice."

INTRODUCTION.

Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson, in his introduction, says:—"It was said long ago of syphilis that it constitutes in itself an epitome of pathology. This statement finds at the present time increasingly abundant illustration. There is scarcely a malady which has received a name which may not be simulated by it, and still fewer which it may not modify. The explanation of this is no doubt to be found in the fact that the stages of the syphilitic fever are so protracted that all the tissues of the body come under its prolonged influence, and that it thus enters into partnership with all the pre-existing proclivities of the individual. To these varying proclivities, taken in conjunction with the measure of treatment adopted, it is in the main that we must attribute the various aspects which its manifestations assume. Although the discovery of the spirochaete is new, the conclusions to which it points are not so. They have been accepted

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