

### "Uí Breasail."

The organisation of "Uí Breasail," the great Health and Industries Show in connection with the Women's National Health Association of Ireland, in the grounds of Ballsbridge, Dublin, from May 24th to June 7th, 1911, is already making satisfactory progress, and a comprehensive programme is being arranged. The Countess of Carrick has consented to be general manager, and has enlisted valuable voluntary helpers to assist her at the head office, and Mrs. Owen Lewis has undertaken the position of General Secretary of the Attractions Section.

The general idea is to organise a show where all movements and enterprises which may conduce to the health and prosperity of Ireland will be illustrated, as well as a programme of amusements and attractions which will add to its popularity, and thus raise a substantial sum for the Central Fund of the Women's National Health Association.

The Exhibition will include the following sections: Health, Industrial, Local Government Board Exhibits, Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction Exhibits, Congested Board District Exhibits, Industrial Schools, Attractions Section, Sports Section, Conferences, Town and Village Entertainment Competitions.

The Health Section will include a series of attractive object lessons bearing on the various departments of health work under the following headings: (1) *Babies*.—Babies' Clubs, Babies' Foods, Babies' Nursery Appliances, Babies' Clothes, Babies' Toys, etc. (2) *Milk*.—Production, distribution, and preservation; pasteurised, humanised, and dried milk; models of dairies and cowsheds; exhibits illustrating milk supply and distribution in different countries. (3) *Nursing Exhibit*, showing all that bears upon the training and work of Hospital and District Nurses, and models of cottage hospitals and nurses' cottages. (4) *Food*.—Exhibits of all kinds bearing upon wise selection and attractive preparation of inexpensive, nourishing foods, and especially those which can be grown at home. (5) *Cooking*, including the cooking of inexpensive menus, with utensils of the simplest description. (6) *School Meals*.—Exhibits and Demonstrations of how to prepare and distribute inexpensive school meals. (7) *Cleaning and Disinfection*.—Exhibits showing simple and effective methods of cleaning and disinfecting, applied to homes, schools, sanatoria, clothing, etc. (8) *Home-making*.—Exhibits showing how all homes, including the simplest, can be made bright, healthy, and comfortable. (9) *Model Houses and Cottages*, together with labour-saving appliances and exhibits, showing sanitary and water supply, provisions for dwellings. (10) *Models of Inexpensive Sanatoria*, Shelters, Chalets and Appliances for Home Treatment of Tuberculosis Patients. (11) *Clothing*. (12) *Schools and School Hygiene*.—Models of healthy schools and school appliances, and furniture suitable for children, contrasted with unsuitable school surroundings and furniture. (13) *Demonstrations of Open Air Schools*. (14) *School Gardening*. (15) *Boys' Health Battalions and Girls' Guilds of Good Health*. (16) *Little Mothers' Schools and Classes*.—Demonstrations.

### Vermin and Plague.

At a meeting called by the Society for the Destruction of Vermin, which dealt with vermin and plague, it was agreed that ruthless and relentless war on all vermin was a matter of national rather than local importance. Rats in particular must be destroyed simultaneously throughout the country. Dr. L. W. Sambon, who has devoted much research to tropical medicine and parasitology, exhibited on the screen a remarkable series of pictures illustrating the parasitic carriers of disease and the methods by which the virus of contagion is transmitted to the human subject. These processes frequently involve transmutation from animal to animal before the bacillus finally finds its "host" in the human organism. The common house-fly, Dr. Sambon said, is now known to be the means of the conveyance of a large number of diseases, including enteric fever and cholera. Yellow fever is an insect-borne disease, and fleas convey tape-worm as well as the bacillus of plague. Cats and dogs, said Dr. Sambon, were extremely useful to keep down the number of rats, but they were not useful in an area where the virus of plague had entered into the body of the rat, because the cats and dogs became infected themselves, and as domestic pets brought disease direct into the homes of the people. In the Middle Ages, when plague was rampant in this country, cats and dogs were destroyed wholesale. Certain fleas were parasites peculiar to the rat, and a flea on a plague-infected rat was capable of conveying the virus to man if it should find a lodgment on his body. Although *pulex irritans* was generally recognised as the flea which attacked the human subject, other fleas which had been in contact with animals infected with plague might attack man as a "host."

### The Bacteria of Consumption.

"More than one-seventh of all the people who die are carried off prematurely by consumption or tuberculosis," says Dr. T. Mitchell Prudden in his little book, "The Story of the Bacteria and their Relation to Health and Disease," of which Messrs. Putnam have just published a second edition, revised, enlarged, and illustrated. Unfortunately, this is a statement which cannot be denied; but the renewed effort which is being made to stay the advance of the ravaging bacilli should do much to break the dread power of this relentless scourge. Dr. Prudden's book will prove of considerable use to the doctor, while the sound and sensible advice which the author offers in non-technical language makes it highly valuable to everyone. This will be obvious, judging from the titles of some of the chapters:—

"The bacteria as man's invisible foe."

"Typhoid fever and its relatives."

"Pneumonia, Influenza, and Colds."

"Safeguards for the body against disease."

"Water and ice as sources of infection."

"Hazards of the air," etc.

The book is published at 3s. 6d. net. Too wide a publicity cannot be given to this work.

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