

transmitted, in spite of all the other procedures of these crusades, and the great expenditure of money involved will come to naught.

THE FOOD FACTOR.

Prolonged deficient nutrition, whether due to underfeeding or malnutrition, is a factor in the susceptibility to tuberculosis of no small import. Famine and pestilence have ever been associated. During great famines following failure of crops, of besieged towns during wars, after periods of deficient nutrition, the inhabitants, not previously susceptible, with practically the same hygienic and sanitary conditions, contract and succumb to parasitic diseases that were not before prevalent. The poverty stricken, underfed paupers of great cities likewise contract tuberculosis when their nutrition fails to compensate their wastes, and in the same surroundings where they were formerly immune, they contract and succumb to the disease. Undoubtedly worry, anxiety, and mental distress plays a large part in all such cases, yet the gradual starvation of under nutrition is, *per se*, a salient factor.

The Pure Milk Problem.

Dr. William Collingridge, Medical Officer of Health for the City of London, commenting on the final report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis, says:—This report, the result of eleven years' scientific investigation, sufficiently emphasises the danger to the public health, and the question must now be considered as to what action should be taken to give effect to the recommendations of the report. Milk and meat must be dealt with separately. As regards milk, a measure is urgently required which should apply to the country as a whole. Every farmer who sells milk should be registered, and registration should only be allowed in the case of premises in good sanitary condition. Every cow whose milk is sold should be tested with tuberculin by a veterinary surgeon. All cows found to re-act should be marked and registered, so that they can be followed up afterwards, and all healthy cows should be kept absolutely apart from those re-acting.

No milk from any tuberculous cow should be allowed to be sold for human consumption, and if given to animals should be boiled or pasteurised before use. All milk should be conveyed in dust-proof churns, locked or sealed, and carried in properly-constructed vans, and special precautions should be required to insure purity during distribution.

The Registered Nurses' Society.

The Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Registered Nurses' Society, presented and passed at a meeting of the Committee held on August 3rd, showed the continuous prosperity of the Society, the year being the most successful since its foundation in 1894.

The balance-sheet showed that more than £10,700 had been received, which means that an increase of £700 on last year has been earned by the nurses. Since its foundation the Society has distributed to its members no less a sum than £111,000. Among the nurses who have resigned during the year some have been appointed to important posts, others have left to be married, and, quite recently, Miss Daisy Humphrey has severed her connection with the Society in order to open a home for the reception of private patients.

The nurses are now fully ensured against accident under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The success of the Society is due in no small degree to the work of its indefatigable Secretary, Sister Cartwright.

Nurses and the National Insurance Bill.

With the adoption of Clause 17 of the National Insurance Bill the consideration of the Bill has ceased for the present session, and its discussion is now postponed until the autumn session at the end of October. This is satisfactory because there will now be time to consider the clauses which are likely to affect nurses prejudicially if they remain as they are.

It is very desirable that Standing Committees should be formed in Scotland and Ireland, as well as England, to consider the Bill from the nurses' point of view, and that after due consideration they should try to agree upon amendments which all consider necessary.

The amendment to Clause 13 successfully agitated for by the medical profession, removing the administration of medical benefit from the approved societies to the local health committees considerably alters the powers of insured persons, and this is just one of the points which requires very serious consideration from the nurses who are compelled to subscribe, and whose work will be a very important adjunct of medical benefit.

We hope that now the London Committee has taken the initiative the nursing profession

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