

health visitors and others who make domestic visits; and to impress upon parents the importance of immediate treatment of infantile diarrhoea. Apart from the medical notification of cases of epidemic diarrhoea in children, the visits of health visitors can be utilized for impressing upon parents the seriousness of diarrhoea amongst young children and the desirability of information being given to the medical officer of health should a case of diarrhoea occur."

GRESHAM LECTURES. 1911.

Four lectures will be delivered by Dr. F. M. Sandwith, Gresham Professor of Physic, on "Flies as Carriers of Disease," at the City of London School, Victoria Embankment, E.C., on October 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th. The lectures are free to the public, and begin at 6 p.m. This course will be very useful to nurses.

FLIES AS CARRIERS OF DISEASE. SYLLABUS.

Lecture 1.—Tuesday, October 10th. The Fly and some of its Dangers to Man.

Need of money for research, in addition to subscriptions to hospitals. Importance of Protozoa and of the insects which carry them to man. The house-fly, harmless in appearance, is really a great danger. Varieties of domestic flies. Structure and habits of the house-fly. Bacilli of typhoid, tubercle and anthrax carried within and outside the fly. Breeding grounds of the fly. Summer diarrhoea of children traced to flies. Deaths from diarrhoea in London this summer. Egyptian ophthalmia and travelling ophthalmic dispensaries. Trachoma and aliens in London.

Lecture 2.—Wednesday, October 11th. The Typhoid Fly and Myiasis.

Spread of typhoid by flies. Symptoms and course of typhoid fever. Why flies are convicted. Instances in New York and India. Manceuvre fever. American concentration camps. Horse, sheep and ox-flies. Instances of myiasis in history and in Russo-Turkish war. Tennyson's "Siege of Lucknow." Fly-blown meat. Nasal and intestinal myiasis.

Lecture 3.—Thursday, October 12th. The destruction of flies and Sand-fly fever.

Cholera, tubercle and other diseases carried by flies. How flies should be destroyed. Municipal posters drawing attention to the danger of flies. Improvements in the public health of Manila. Simple continued fever, well known since 1804, now traced to the bite of the sand-fly. This discovery, originally made in Dalmatia, has been confirmed in Malta, Crete, &c. Description of the disease. Experiments on human volunteers. Description of the fly, *Phlebotomus papatasi*. Experiments with the infected fly on army doctors in London.

Lecture 4.—Friday, October 13th.

Will be devoted to showing lantern slides which illustrate the previous lectures.

OUR FOREIGN LETTER.

LITTLE PAPERS FROM JAPAN. PITY THE POOR LEPERS.

(Continued from page 256.)

The little town of Kusatsu lies some 4,000 feet above sea-level in a hollow among pine-clad hills. In outward appearance it is cheerful and pretty, the houses being two or three storeys high, of white plaster and richly carved woodwork. The ordinary Japanese house is picturesque and pleasing, but these are strikingly handsome, and even imposing. In the centre of the town is a small lake of greenish mud with hot springs bubbling up here and there. Such springs are numerous in Japan, but these are of extraordinary strength and are much recommended by the old-fashioned doctors as a cure for rheumatism and skin troubles. There is a story that a leper was once cured here, and whether true or not it brings many of these poor sufferers to the place. There is a proverb which runs "Even Kusatsu baths cannot cure love," from which we may rightly infer that human nature is much the same all the world over.

While we were waiting for breakfast we heard the sound of wooden clappers summoning the patients to the various bath-houses, and soon after there arose a heartrending chorus of groans, for the water, besides being excessively hot, contains an acid which produces horrible sores. The baths are divided up into sections by a network of planks on which the patients stand waiting. At the first signal all stoop down and pour some of the water over their bodies; then at the word of command they plunge or creep right into the bath, and a great groan goes up as if from one voice. Three times a day this is repeated, and at the end of three days the patient has to pause for the sores produced by the treatment to heal, and spends his time wandering over the hills and gaining probably much benefit from the mountain air.

One part of the town is reserved exclusively for lepers, and here those who have money come, hoping to cure them of their leprosy. There are trim little houses, hotels, bath-houses and shops, but guests, servants, shop-keepers, all are lepers. Most of them are hideously disfigured by countless tiny black scars, the marks of the moxa, a kind of cauterization which is much used. The treatment is often successful, or partly so, for a time, but with almost all reputed cures the fact remains the same that the disease reappears sooner or later, unless the patient dies in the meantime of something else. Here there are hotels for those who can pay and work for those who can work, but there is no charitable hospital and little religion of any kind; certainly none that gives any practical help to those who are suffering or in danger or want. At the same time there are always unprincipled men ready to deceive and rob well-to-do leper women and girls who come

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