

SLEEPING SICKNESS.

Four lectures on the Sleeping Sickness were delivered by Dr. Sandwith, Gresham Professor of Physic at the City of London Schools, on February 13th and three following days.

The Professor said that in Dr. Livingstone's travels there were frequent references to a species of fly called *tsetse*, which abounded on the banks of the river. He described it as not much larger than the horsefly and in colour like a honeybee. It has a peculiar buzzing sound once heard never forgotten. Its bite is fatal to horse, dog, and cattle. In one journey he says "we lost forty-eight oxen although we did not see more than a score of tsetse flies."

Dr. Livingstone goes on to wonder why man did not perish too.

The tsetse fly acts as a carrier of a living parasite, which procures the disease from a living source. It has been proved that where there is no game there is no parasite. In many wild game this parasite appears to be perfectly innocuous, but becomes deadly when injected into the domestic animal.

There are two reasons why this cattle disease (*lugana*) is of immense importance.

1. It forbids farming;
2. It renders travelling on foot almost impossible

Sir David Bruce's later investigations showed the analogy of cattle disease to sleeping sickness in man.

Briefly, there is one tsetse fly that conveys the *lugana* to cattle and another tsetse fly that conveys sleeping sickness to man.

Unfortunately, it has also been proved that the cattle fly can also convey the Sleeping Sickness, so that there are two flies that convey this fatal disease, viz., the *Glossina morsitans* (of cattle) and the *Glossina palpalis*.

Dr. Sandwith remarked that Sleeping Sickness was not a good name for this disease, as lethargy was a symptom only of its last stages. It is better called Human trypanosimiasis.

In its later stages the diagnosis is always easy, and the prognosis is always bad.

For the extermination of the disease, three courses appear to be open:—

1. The destruction of the tsetse fly;
2. To render immune man and the domestic animals, as wild game appears to be;
3. To discover drugs that will cure it.

The tsetse fly is rarely to be found more than thirty yards from the water, and it always requires shade, but when in search of blood it will follow men or animals for long distances. It does not lay eggs, but one larva or maggot develops at a time in the mother fly. The work of deforestation round its haunts is occupying the attention of the Government. The scourge of this terrible disease is of great magnitude, and on the shores of the Lake Victoria Nyanza it threatened at one time to obliterate the entire population.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

WOMEN.

The meeting at the Royal Albert Hall, on Friday, February 24th, convened by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and presided over by Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., who received a great ovation, was a memorable gathering, the hall being crowded from the arena to the roof. The beautiful banners of the Affiliated Societies decorated the front of the boxes, and one of the most enjoyable features of the evening was the singing of suffrage songs by a white-robed choir, as the great audience assembled. The Chancellor of the Exchequer was somewhat severely heckled as he delivered the speech of the evening, in which he reiterated the promises publicly made by the Prime Minister, and made profession of his unbounded faith in the integrity and honour of his chief. Mrs. Philip Snowden, who may be said to have represented "labour," spoke with eloquence and force; and the Earl of Lytton, who always commands a respectful hearing, when he speaks on behalf of a cause for which he has done so much, gave excellent advice, when he quoted Shakespeare's words—

"Now put your shields before your hearts,
But fight with hearts more proof than shields."
The collection (£5,280), was a record one for the National Union; and the Resolution of the evening, "That this meeting calls upon Parliament to enfranchise women in 1912," was carried with enthusiasm.

The Kaiserin was present last Saturday at the opening in Berlin of a most interesting exhibition, named "Die Frau in Haus und Beruf" devoted to the work and interests of women, organized by Frau Hedwig Heyl, charmingly named "the Mother of Berlin." Frau Heyl in her opening speech said that the exhibition signified that peace had at last been concluded between woman's two great spheres of work—the home and her profession, which were at first thought to be antagonistic to one another.

In an interesting interview with a representative of *The Standard* Frau Heyl told her interviewer that she received many of her ideas from the English Princess who came to Germany, first, as Crown Princess and was afterwards the Empress Frederick. "When I was with her," she said, "I always liked to have a note book and pencil at hand, for I do not think I ever had a conversation with her in which she did not give me some new and illuminating idea. She was a marvellous woman, and if she was not always understood it was because she was forty years in advance of her time."

Frau Heyl also said that the present Empress takes the greatest interest in women's work, and on one occasion remarked, "I cannot understand why women do not get the same payment as men for the same work." Frau Heyl informed her Majesty that "not even the most advanced woman in Germany went further than that."

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