

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL EUGENICS CONGRESS.

The first International Eugenics Congress, which opened with a brilliant banquet at the Hotel Cecil on Wednesday in last week, when the President of the Congress, Professor Darwin, presided, has been from first to last an extraordinary success.

Both Mrs. Gotto, Secretary of the Eugenics Education Society, upon whom much of the initial work devolved, and Mrs. Alec Tweedie, the talented Hon. Secretary of the Entertainments Committee, are greatly to be congratulated on the success of the Congress. The hospitality throughout the week was most enjoyable, and added greatly to the pleasure of a most interesting Conference.

CONGRESS KERNELS.

The sections of the Congress, which was held at the University of London, were most comprehensive and illuminating. In this journal we can only mention briefly a few of the kernels of the papers.

DR. SOREN HANSEN, COPENHAGEN.

"If Eugenics is the study of agencies under social control, that may improve or impair the racial qualities of future generations, either physically or mentally, it must be one of the first objects of Eugenics to take account of the agencies, under social control or not, that have already improved or impaired the racial qualities of the present generation."

DR. LOUIS QUERTON, BRUSSELS.

"The control of children, subject to conditions so little suited to their needs, would appear to be an absolute necessity, if we wish to ensure the education of the individual and at the same time to prevent the degeneration of the race."

"The control should be relegated to medical men, as the registration of births and deaths is relegated to them at the present time, but after the birth is registered, and the position of the child as regards the community established, the doctor should continue to exercise over the child permanent control through the different phases of its development."

PROFESSOR VERNON LYMAN KELLOGG, CALIFORNIA.

"Syphilis is a disease that renders marriage an abomination, and child-bearing a social danger. And, as a crowning misfortune, this disease does not kill, but only ruins its victims. While phthisis and cancer carry off their subjects at the rate, in England, to-day, of 1,000 per year to each 1,000,000 of population, syphilis kills but one person in a million. It is, then, not a purifying, but wholly a contaminating disease."

MR. H. E. JORDAN, U.S.A.

"Modern medicine, yielding to the demands of real progress, is becoming less a curative and more a preventive science. It is safe to predict that in several centuries medical men generally will be more of the order of guardians of the public health than doctors of private diseases."

BOOKS TO READ AND POSSESS.

Publishers' announcements just now are offering a most attractive selection of books of interest to nurses.

MESSRS. G. P. PUTNAM'S.

Nurses and others who have read with delight the first two volumes of "A History of Nursing," by Miss Lavinia L. Dock and Miss M. Adelaide Nutting, will receive the announcement that the third and fourth volumes will shortly be published by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 24, Bedford Street, Strand, London, W.C., with enthusiasm. We may expect that many orders will be given for them at the International Nursing Congress at Cologne. Other books published by this firm are "Materia Medica for Nurses," price 3s. 6d., and "Hygiene and Morality," price 5s., also by Miss L. L. Dock, both of which every nurse should possess; and "Practical Nursing," by Miss A. E. Pope and Miss A. C. Maxwell, price 6s., designed to be of great assistance to nurses, and deservedly popular.

MESSRS. CHARLES GRIFFIN, LTD.

Messrs. Griffin, of Exeter Street, Strand, are the publishers of that well-known and most popular book, "A Manual of Nursing," by Laurence Humphry, M.D., M.R.C.S., which is now in its thirty-fourth edition; price, 3s. 6d. "An Introduction to the Study of Midwifery," by Dr. Archibald Donald, should prove of much use to midwives; while all nurses and midwives should acquaint themselves with the principles contained in Sir R. W. Burnet's book on "Foods and Dietsaries."

MESSRS. BAILLIÈRE, TINDALL & COX.

Messrs. Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 8, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., are just bringing out "The Nurses' Complete Medical Dictionary," at a cost of 2s., which contains many more words than any other dictionary published at a similar price, by Miss M. Theresa Bryan. Another most useful book published by the same firm is an "Index of Practical Nursing," by Dr. J. Basil Cook, Senior Assistant Medical Officer at the Kensington Infirmary, a book which nurses will find of great assistance to them in their work.

VIROL.

An article of diet much prescribed, often with the greatest benefit, in cases of infantile diarrhoea and wasting, is Virol, which is now used in more than 1,000 hospitals and consumptive sanatoria. It is supplied by Virol, Ltd., Old Street, E.C.; and the number of cases in which great improvement has taken place is most encouraging testimony to its value. It is not too much to say that in many instances life has been saved, which otherwise would have been lost, if Virol had not been prescribed.

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