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## EDITORIAL.

### INTERNATIONAL UNION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS.

When the Second International Conference of the International Union against Tuberculosis met on Tuesday, the opening day, in the Great Hall of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, Westminster, under the presidency of Professor Sir Robert Philip, M.D., a distinguished company was present to welcome the foreign delegates, including two Cabinet Ministers, and Ambassadors and Ministers of sixteen countries.

The Chairman called at once upon the Marquis Curzon of Kedleston, K.G., His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to address the assembly. Lord Curzon then extended to the Conference the official welcome of the Government. Its members were, he said, engaged just as much as any Foreign Office in this or any other country in endeavouring to restore the world equilibrium, so rudely shattered by the war, to relieve mankind of untold, preventable misery, and to give back to the world the blessings of contentment and prosperity.

The international movement against tuberculosis, started in 1914, set before itself no less an object than the final eradication of this terrible scourge, which, in spite of the discoveries of medical science, still claimed its hecatombs of victims, and left the country or the city which it devastates in a worse condition than a battlefield.

He expressed the opinion that the war, in its appeal to every instinct of humanity, in its demonstration of the incalculable horrors of suffering, and in the spirit of cosmopolitan fellow-service in great causes which it had engendered, had drawn men together and rendered international co-operation more easy.

He concluded by delivering the following

### MESSAGE OF WELCOME FROM HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

"I welcome to my capital the distinguished representatives of many nations united in a common effort to combat the great scourge of tuberculosis. The encouraging success which is already manifest from these co-ordinated efforts in the cause of health leads me confidently to hope that further advances will attend the efforts of the present Congress, in whose work, following the example of my dear father, I take so deep an interest."

The Right Hon. Sir Alfred Mond, Bart., His Majesty's Minister of Health, also expressed the great pleasure it gave him to extend, in his official capacity, a cordial and hearty welcome to this extremely important and representative Conference.

Nothing was more useful than that men and women should meet together to discuss these questions, and he had no doubt that the officers of his Department of the Ministry would take note of, and be able to report to him later, new methods of dealing with this scourge.

Delegates of thirty-nine countries, and the Representatives of the Secretariat of the League of Nations and the League of Red Cross Societies were then presented to the Conference, each saying a few words. They included representatives of the oldest civilisations, such as China and Japan, down to Czecho-Slovakia, whose representative, speaking as a young man, on behalf of a young Republic, thanked the Great Nations for the welcome they had extended to his country.

Addresses were then given by Monsieur le Sénateur André Honnorat, late member of the French Government, Representative of France, and Colonel George E. Bushnell, United States Army, Representative of the United States of America.

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