

which, by the way, was once a swimming-bath, we saw many interesting things. Charts showing the condition, as regards the incidence of tropical diseases before and after the districts had been drained and freed of malaria, photographs of many lands where the work of the Institute is being promoted, and many sketches of the different types of mosquitoes; incidentally, there are some two hundred different varieties of anopheles and two thousand kinds of mosquitoes altogether.

In another department we saw what might with truth be termed the memorial of the work of Sir Ronald Ross—great iron cabinets containing the archives of his research work; they were purchased by Lady Houston for the British Museum, and, when the Institute was established, the Museum handed them over to the Ross Institute.

The wards are very bright and beautiful, and look out on the fine grounds in which the Institute stands. The male ward in particular was exceedingly pleasing; it has large windows in Gothic design and at this season they are framed in pyracanthia with its gorgeous harvest of orange berries.

The Institute has a huge collection of films on which one can see views of the many lands where health measures have been carried out on the lines of Sir Ronald Ross' discovery. One particularly interesting series of pictures come from Nepal; at the request of the Maharajah of Patiala, Sir Malcolm Watson was engaged in important research there. (Miss Gray, who is a Member of the Council of the Association, has very kindly promised to arrange a film display for our Members at an early date.) Lectures are given at the Institute each year to planters and others going out to the East, and these cover a very wide field. When Her Majesty the Queen visited the Institute twelve different dominions were represented among the patients, and this gives a striking indication of the expanse which the Institute covers.

While we were there a call came from Sir Ronald Ross to Miss Gray "to come mosquito hunting." This led to some interesting information as Miss Gray proceeded to tell us something of the types of mosquitoes (chiefly Anopheles) to be found in Wimbledon Common, Richmond Park, etc.; the doctors and nurses go to find the breeding places (chiefly ponds), they collect and subsequently bacteriologically examine the larvæ and afterwards the ponds are treated. It is to be borne in mind that mosquitoes are not dangerous until they have bitten a patient suffering from malaria or one of the diseases of which they are the acknowledged carriers.

The nursing staff have very comfortable quarters. Their sitting-room is bright and airy, but especially did we admire Miss Gray's pretty room with its pink and gold hangings, and just beyond a large curtained arch was her bedroom carried out in a colour scheme of pink and apple green. We should imagine that Miss Gray has no difficulty in filling her appointments because, not only must a period at this Institute provide a very valuable qualification, but the work must be intensely interesting. Besides she is

obviously one of those people who can create an atmosphere of enthusiasm. One of the doctors described her as "the little mother of the Hospital," and it is quite evident that she not only takes care to ensure the comfort of her staff, but that she sees to it that they leave the hospital equipped with all the specialised knowledge which they can acquire at an institution such as this.

It is quite impossible, in the space at our disposal, to give any adequate indication of the far-reaching benefits which the discoveries of Sir Ronald Ross have brought to mankind. A tour of the Institute is convincing evidence of the part they play in controlling the spread of tropical diseases. Prophetic of his achievements were some lines written by him ten years before he made his great discovery of the part which the mosquito plays in disease, that discovery which made a "third of the world habitable."

In this, O Nature, yield, I pray
to me,
I pace and pace, and think and think
and take
The fevered hands and note down
all I see,
That some dim distant light may
haply break,
The painful faces ask—'Can we not
cure?'
We answer, 'No, not yet; we seek
the laws.'
Ah, God! reveal through all this
thing obscure
The unseen, small but million
murdering cause."

ASSOCIATION NOTICES.

We ask our members to cut out and keep before them the list of events on page i of the Advertisement Supplement in the front of this journal. Major Rigg's lectures are always popular, and we hope for a good attendance on 10th inst. We have been specially requested to arrange just one more ramble before the days grow short, and we are fixing this for Tuesday, 13th October; details have not yet been finally fixed, but the journey will be through certain beautiful parts of Kent, and one objective will be Pattenden Farm near Goudhurst. This is one of the oldest houses in England and is mentioned in the Doomsday Book. Its present owner has kindly promised

to show it to us.

Miss Macdonald will be "At Home" to Members and friends on Tuesday 20th inst, from 4-6 p.m., and she hopes that many may be able to be present. On Thursday, October 29th, we are to have a whist drive in aid of the Purchase Fund.

There is now a room vacant at the Settlement Home, and any Member who would like to have this should write at once to the Secretary for particulars, as the Executive Committee will this month consider applications for it. The rent of each room is two shillings weekly, inclusive of light and medical attendance.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

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MISS MARY GRAY, S.R.N., F.B.C.N.
Matron of the Ross Institute, Putney.

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