

in refusing to undertake it. They have accordingly commenced operations, and it is hoped that the copy may be produced ready for the press in about five years. Owing to the enormous increase in the number of scientific publications at the close of the last century, it is estimated that to complete the Catalogue and to subsidise a publisher for undertaking the printing and publication, he retaining the proceeds of the sale, will cost at least 12,000*l.*

The question now arises whether the funds of the Royal Society ought to continue to be burdened with any part of this expense. The activity and responsibilities of the Society have greatly increased in recent years, and it is much straitened by its inability to increase its expenditure, either on its own establishment or in other directions, owing to the incessant demands of the Catalogue. The Council consider that the time has now come for them to appeal to those who are in a position to afford substantial financial assistance, to enable them to complete this great undertaking without devoting any part of their funds, so sorely needed for other purposes, to this object. They are thankful to be able to announce that Dr. Ludwig Mond, F.R.S., has been so impressed with the importance of the Catalogue, with the necessity for producing the subject index of the scientific literature of the past century so far as possible in the same complete form as that adopted by the International Council for the literature of the present century, and with the justice of the view that the Royal Society ought for the future to be relieved of the cost of producing the Catalogue, that he has most generously added to his previous gift of 2000*l.* the munificent donation of 6000*l.*, payable in four annual instalments of 1500*l.*

The President and Council have also much pleasure in stating that Mr. Andrew Carnegie, fully appreciating the value of the Society's undertaking and the claims that it has on the liberality of those who, though not Fellows of the Society, are interested in the promotion of natural knowledge, has contributed the handsome sum of 1000*l.* towards its accomplishment. They venture to hope that others may be willing to contribute towards a fund to provide for the total cost of this national work.

November, 1902.

#### THE BERLIN TUBERCULOSIS CONGRESS.

THE Congress on Tuberculosis, which has recently concluded its sittings in Berlin, was instituted under the auspices of the Central International Organisation for the Prevention of Consumption, which is itself an outcome of the international congresses which have met during recent years in Paris, Berlin, Naples and London. An international association of this kind is to some extent a new departure and is not without political significance; its analogue may be found in the international systems at present existing for meteorological observations. Heretofore international co-operation against disease has been confined to sudden outbreaks of the more virulent epidemic maladies. It must be the sincere hope of every philanthropist that the result of this organisation may be the complete annihilation of one of the most potent and widespread causes of disease in existence.

The dissemination of tuberculosis was naturally one of the subjects which engaged the attention of the Congress. It is now recognised that tuberculosis is an infectious disease, and therefore that it is preventable. One of the chief sources of infection is the sputa of consumptive patients. In this connection much has been done recently to check the habit of indiscriminate spitting in public places. At the present time in Glasgow, Manchester, Liverpool and some other towns, it is a penal

offence to spit on the corporation tramcars, and the Glamorganshire County Council has made a bye-law to the effect that spitting on the floor of public carriages, churches or other public buildings is punishable by a fine not exceeding 5*l.*

Another point of interest brought to light by the Congress was the growth during recent years of provision for consumptive patients in sanatoria. This has occurred through new hospitals being built and old ones being enlarged. As a marked instance of the latter, the Mount Vernon Hospital at Hampstead may be quoted. Four years ago there was accommodation at this hospital for fifty patients; when the present building operations are complete there will be accommodation for two hundred and fifty. At the present time in the United Kingdom there are, however, only about 1000 beds for poor patients and about 1200 for paying patients.

The question of the compulsory notification of tuberculosis and the disinfection by the municipal authorities after deaths from tubercular disease was also discussed. The opinion seemed generally in favour of compulsory notification, which already exists in Norway. An interesting paper was read on the subject of dispensaries for consumptives, which have been founded in Belgium. They are supported by private societies with the aid of town councils. The patients receive food, coal, clothes, bedding, antiseptics, lodging disinfection every three months, and family washing every week.

Perhaps the most interesting item in the proceedings of the Congress was Prof. Koch's address upon the transmission of bovine tuberculosis to man. This authority maintains the thesis he enunciated in London last year, that the meat and milk of tuberculous cattle are very rarely, if ever, the sources of tuberculous infection to the human subject. In this connection Prof. Koch laid special emphasis on the fact that though for more than a year past he had received official reports of all tuberculous cases coming under the notice of the German hospitals and the professors of pathology at German universities, no undoubted case of primary tuberculous infection of the intestines had occurred. He also drew attention to the fact that most drastic measures would be required if the meat and milk of tuberculous cattle were condemned as food, and that such an action would cause a great increase in the price of these foods, which would be to the detriment of the community.

F. W. T.

#### ANTHROPOLOGY AND GOVERNMENT IN THE UGANDA PROTECTORATE.<sup>1</sup>

IF the population of British East Africa, or even of the Uganda Protectorate only, can furnish as many anthropological problems as that of the little corner of the country between the north-eastern horn of Lake Victoria Nyanza and Mount Elgon, it is quite time that a scientific collection of the facts were commenced. Mr. Hopley's "Ethnological Survey" deals only with a district about 120 miles long by 60 or 70 miles wide. He enumerates within this area four distinct races, or at least peoples of four stocks, beside a number of miscellaneous tribes whose racial connections are at present unknown. It is obvious that with such a wealth of material a work of 95 imperial octavo pages must simply be of a preliminary character.

The only stocks with which the author attempts to deal in detail are the Bantu Kavirondo, interesting as being "practically the most northerly representatives of the Bantu race," the Ja-luo, a Nilotic people, and the Nandi and allied tribes, conjectured to be a mixture of

<sup>1</sup> "Eastern Uganda: an Ethnological Survey." By C. W. Hopley, Assoc. M. Inst. C.E., Sub-commissioner, Uganda Protectorate. Occasional Papers, No. 1. (Published by the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, 1902.) Price 10s.