

The work of the Congress was divided into ten sections, as follows:—

- I.—PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.
- II.—BACTERIOLOGY.
- III.—RELATION OF THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS TO THOSE OF MAN.
- IV.—HYGIENE OF INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD.
- V.—CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS IN RELATION TO HYGIENE.
- VI.—ARCHITECTURE IN RELATION TO HYGIENE.
- VII.—ENGINEERING IN RELATION TO HYGIENE.
- VIII.—NAVAL AND MILITARY HYGIENE.
- IX.—STATE HYGIENE.
- X.—DEMOGRAPHY, HEALTH STATISTICS, AND INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE.

Some idea may be gained of the wide range of subjects discussed in the various sections by giving a list of some of them.

SECTION I.—PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.

This was one of the most important sections of the Congress and attracted a larger general audience than any other.

The first subject discussed was *Quarantine*. The following papers were read:—

“1. The mode of preventing the spread of epidemic disease from one country to another.—Surgeon General J. N. Cunningham, C.S.I.

2. “Mesures a prendre a l'egard des navires provenant de regions contaminees ou suspectes pour empecher l'importation en Europe des maladies exotiques transmissibles.”—Professor Proust, Paris.

3. The Communicability of cholera from country to country.—Inspector General Lawson.

4. Quarantine in Australasia, Theory and Practice.—Dr. Ashburton Thompson, New South Wales.

The discussion on the foregoing papers was carried on by Dr. Rochard, of Paris; Felkin, of Edinburgh; Simpson, of Calcutta; Hewitt, of Minnesota; Le duc de Nantes; Dr. Thorne Thorne; Brigade Surgeon McCann; the great French Scientist, Prof. Brouardel; and Dr. Stokois, of Amsterdam. It was most interesting and instructive. The point brought out most prominently was the inefficiency of quarantine as it is generally understood by governments and the public. Some went so far as to speak of the “uselessness of the Quarantine System.”

There was a consensus of opinion that quarantine could not prevent the transmission of disease. Portable diseases were carried in so many ways that effective quarantine was almost impossible. Their spread was dependent upon the fact that the propagation of such diseases as Asiatic cholera, diphtheria, and the like required not only the presence of the germ of the disease but the proper soil for its growth and development, and that insanitary conditions furnished such a soil. The true method for the prevention of the carriage of disease from one country to another was the application of sanitary laws both at the port of departure as well as at the port of destination of the ship. Thorough cleanliness, isolation, and disinfection, must be rigidly enforced. There were present at this meeting, in which great interest was taken, Dr. Wickwire, the Inspecting Physi-