

Whether the same results will be obtained in other parts of the world remains to be seen. In many regions in which malaria is prevalent it is probable that equally satisfactory results will be arrived at. It has been shown that if due precautions are taken a great degree of protection can be obtained. The importance of such knowledge can scarcely be overrated. It is possible, however, that in some districts we have to do with a different disease to the "malaria" that is found in Italy, and that we must seek some other means of its spread than in the anopheles. Interesting experiences have also been related by Professor Angelo Celli as the results of experiments carried out in Latium.

*Plague.*—Plague has appeared in many parts of the world during the year, and thus additional importance was attached to the report of the Indian Plague Commission, especially with that part which deals with the value of Mr. Haffkine's system of preventive inoculation. The conclusions at which the Commissioners arrived are briefly that inoculation sensibly diminishes the incidence of attacks and the case-mortality in those persons who have been inoculated. The inoculation, however, does not appear to confer any great degree of protection within the first few days after the operation has been performed, though it ultimately confers protection which lasts for a number of weeks—possibly for months. The varying strength of the vaccine employed apparently had no great effects upon the results hitherto obtained, and the true value of Mr. Haffkine's method will probably not be thoroughly tested until after an accurate method of standardisation has been devised. In the report of the Commissioners the method of preparing the vaccine was fully discussed, but it is obvious that much yet remains to be done before the practice of inoculation with a fluid of this nature will fulfil all the conditions which sound scientific reasoning rightly demands of it. For the present—and this in itself is no small achievement—the method may justly claim to be a practical success and very nearly, if not quite, to attain to the high ideal of a certain and safe prophylaxis against one of the most deadly of all diseases. Time will doubtless remedy existing defects, and it is regrettable that the members of the Commission contented themselves with merely pointing out the imperfections and the necessity for overcoming them, and did not, with some minor exceptions, make any definite suggestions or recommendations as to the manner in which they should be overcome. On August 27th and 28th general currency was given to a disquieting report that cases of suspected plague had occurred in Glasgow. The confirmation of the clinical diagnosis was soon forthcoming, and the country was then made aware of the unwelcome fact that after an absence of more than 200 years plague had once more obtained a certain amount of foothold in Great Britain. The original cases of imported plague could not be traced, but as