

The health of the school children has always had attention paid to it even before the passage of the education laws in 1870. With the coming of physical training into the schools in 1881 there was a proper recognition of the necessity for hygiene and Dr. Mishima was appointed an investigator of school health conditions in 1891. On account of his work a royal commission was appointed which worked through nearly ten years. It is true that personal hygiene becomes a portion of the religious ceremonies so that frequent bathing is the rule, but the application of the principles of cleanliness in a public way is comparatively recent.

Since 1900 medical inspection of all school children has been required annually, the results being transmitted to the central office at Tokio. During the past ten years there has been a noticeable improvement according to Dr. Mishima, in all the scholars over ten years of age. The extent of the supervision is shown by the figures of the little book. In 1909 there were 21,700 schools with about 11,750 physicians and 6,200 scholars of whom thirty-eight per cent. are kept under constant supervision. It is the plan to limit the number of schools to six for any one physician, so that he can visit one each day of the week, and that he shall not be expected to care for more than 1,500 scholars, or, in cases of necessity, 2,000, and thus be able to make the annual inspection in April. A few physicians now run as high as 10,000 scholars each, while 5,600 of them have less than one thousand each.

Sanitation Bureau in Venezuela.

The President of Venezuela has issued a decree creating a National Bureau of Sanitation, in connection with which it is proposed to erect a laboratory of bacteriology and parasitology, a veterinary department, and a central station for disinfection. Imports of preserved foods will be subject to inspection by the Bureau, whose permission must be obtained before the goods are placed upon the market.

Advance Notices, Alphabetical.

Congress of the Universities of the Empire, London, England, July 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1912. Fifty-one universities have arranged to send representatives; and among the questions

proposed to be discussed by them are the following: University Organization; Universities in Their Relation to Teachers and Undergraduate Students; Universities in Their Relation to Post-graduate Research Work; Universities in Their Relation to Schools and to Agencies for Higher Education. Other subjects for discussion will probably be: Whether any Common Understanding Will Be Possible Among the Universities of the Empire as to the Extent to Which They Could Recognize Each Others' Entrance Examinations; The Desirability of Increased Facilities for Post-Graduate Study; The Possibility of Some Plan of Interchange of Professors; What Could be Done by Universities in Regard to After Careers of Students, and the whole question of the Financial Support Given from Public Sources to Universities. Inquiries with regard to the Congress should be addressed to Dr. R. D. Roberts, at the Congress Office, University of London, South Kensington, London, England.

Imperial Conference of Teachers' Association, London, England, July 12-16, 1912.

Royal Institute of Public Health.—The Council of the Royal Institute of Public Health have accepted an invitation from the Chief Burgomaster of Berlin to hold their 1912 Congress in that city, from Thursday, July 25th, to Sunday, July 28th, inclusive. A Local General Arrangements Committee has been formed, consisting of representatives of the Royal Ministry of the Interior, the Imperial Board of Health, the City of Berlin, the medical officers of the Headquarters-Staffs of the Army and Navy, the University of Berlin, the medical and hygienic societies of Berlin, and other societies, to promote the success of the meeting. The Congress will be under the presidency of Lord Beauchamp, his Majesty's First Commissioner of Works, and will be conducted in the following sections: State Medicine, President, Sir T. Clifford Allbutt, Regius Professor of Medicine in the University of Cambridge; Bacteriology and Comparative Pathology, President, Professor G. Sims Woodhead, Professor of Pathology in the University of Cambridge; Child Study and School Hygiene, President, Sir James Crichton-Browne, Lord Chancellor's Visitor in Lunacy; Military, Colonial and Naval, President, Major Sir Ronald Ross, Professor of Tropical Medicine in the University of Liverpool; Municipal Engineering, Architecture and Town Planning, President, Mr. P. C. Cowan, Chief Engineer of the Local Government Board, Ireland. Facilities will be afforded for visits to be made to the various public health and educational institutions in Berlin and other places.

Royal Sanitary Institute, Congress and Exhibition, York, England, July 29th to August 3rd, 1912. President, Most Rev. His Grace the Lord Archbishop of York; E. White Wallis, Secretary, 90 Buckingham Palace Rd., London, England.

The Royal Sanitary Institute Henry Saxon Snell Prize.—This prize, consisting of 50 guineas and the silver medal of the Royal Sanitary Institute is offered, 1912, for an essay on "Suggestions for Improvements in the Ventilating, Lighting, Heating and Water Supply Appliances for an Operating Room and Its Accessory Rooms of 400 Beds" (No Students). For conditions of the competition application should be made to the Secretary of the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90 Buckingham Road, London, S.W., England.