

## INTERNATIONAL

## ADVANCE NOTICES.

*Fifteenth International Congress of Hygiene and Demography*, Washington, D.C., last week of September, 1912. J. W. Schereschowsky, Director.

*Fourth International Congress of School Hygiene*, Buffalo, in the summer of 1913—particulars later.

*Conjoint Meeting, International Association of Medical Museums and International Congress of Medicine*, London, England, in the summer of 1913. Particulars later. Dr. Thursfield and Dr. Woodwork, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Dr. Kettle, of the Cancer Research Hospital, Local Secretaries.

*Fifteenth International Sanitary Congress of American Countries*, Santiago, Chili, November, 1912. Dr. Alexander De Rio, President.

*Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine*, second biennial congress, Hong Kong, China. January 20th to 27th, 1912. Under the presidency of Dr. J. Mitford Atkinson, Hong Kong; Dr. Francis Clark, Secretary-Treasurer General, Hong Kong.

*International Congress on Tuberculosis*, Rome, April, 1912.

*International Red Cross Conference*, Washington, D.C., May 7-15, 1912. Dr. C. R. Dixon, Secretary, 192 Bloor St. West, Toronto, Ontario.

*International Eugenic Congress*, London, England, July 24-30, 1912; address the Honorable Secretary, 6 York Buildings, Adelphi, London, England.

*Seventeenth International Congress of Medicine*, London, England, summer of 1913; further particulars of this Congress will be given later. Honorary General Secretary, Prof. H. Burger, Vondelstraat, Amsterdam.

*League of American Municipalities*. The next convention of the League of American Municipalities will be held in Buffalo, N.Y., and in 1913 it will likely be held in Winnipeg.

*International Marine Congress*, Philadelphia, July, 1912. This Congress met last year in Brussels, and when the United States authorities extended the invitation to the Congress to meet in Philadelphia, 1912, they, at the same time, invited the Canadian Government to assist in carrying out the honors of the North American Continent. The party will, therefore, be taken over by the Canadian Government at Port Arthur after the Philadelphia meeting, and will go to Montreal, stopping on the way at Owen Sound, Toronto, Kingston and other lake ports.

**American Public Health Association.**

Municipal health departments, if organized upon the model lines suggested to the American Public Health Association, at its convention in Havana, Cuba, by a committee of which Dr. Joseph S. Neff was chairman, would cost 45 cents per capita of population for maintenance. Under this plan of organization every field of activity which should properly come under the supervision of public health officials could be handled by competent persons.

The report was compiled by the committee on organization and functions of municipal health departments, based upon correspondence with eighty-eight cities in the United States, Mexico, Canada and Cuba, having a population of 25,000 or more.

In its model plan of organization the committee covered everything having relation to the duties of a public health department, on the ground that it would be a simple matter for any municipality desiring to adopt the plan to eliminate any section which it did not desire.

Preliminary to outlining the executive branches of a model health department the committee makes the following observa-

tions concerning the organization of the board of health, which should be the legislative branch. The report states:

"The mayor should be ex-officio member of the board of health, which should consist of the health commissioner, head of the department of public safety, head of the department of public works, and two others to be appointed by the mayor with or without the indorsement of the legislative body of the city government, one of whom should be a sanitary engineer and one a lawyer.

"The board should serve without salary. The functions of the board should be purely legislative and advisory. It should be clothed with power to enact laws in relation to the public health. These powers are too great to invest in any one man. The board should also have the appointment of its secretary and of its health commissioner.

"The commissioner of health should be under the control of the board of health only in so far as pertains to the execution of laws enacted by it, but he should be under its influence as acting in an advisory capacity. The commissioner should be the supreme executive of the municipal department of health. His appointment should