

condition of school children during the development of puberty, Professor Axel Key said that exhaustive researches had been carried out in Sweden and Denmark with reference to chronic and hereditary conditions of general weakness and chlorosis; habitual headache, curvatures of the spine, and other chronic affections. Shortness of sight was also taken into account, and was found to correspond entirely with the results obtained by Hermann Cohn, of Breslau. The result of these examinations was to show that out of 15,000 boys of the Swedish schools 40 per cent. were ill in one way or another, 14 per cent. suffered from habitual headache, and 13 from chlorosis. In the preparatory schools 17 per cent. in the lowest classes, 37 per cent. of the next higher class, and 40 per cent. of the highest classes showed illness. Similar conditions were found in Denmark. The cause of these differences lay in the conditions of the development of the puberty. The disease percentages were highest in the period of the retarded growth, and in the time of the greatest increase of growth they were least. For youths the 17th year was the healthiest and the most resistant; from the 18th year the condition of health again became impaired. With regard to the health of girls the state of things in Sweden was frightful. The percentage of disease in the 3,000 girls mentioned above was 61, out of which 36 per cent. suffered from chlorosis, as many from habitual headache, 10 per cent. from curvature of the spine, and 5 per cent. from scrofula. These conditions, said Professor Axel Key, were no doubt due to over-pressure. He concluded by suggesting that uniform international investigation should be made into the whole subject. The lecture was illustrated by about 30 large tables.

### THIRD GENERAL MEETING.

The third and final general meeting was held on Saturday, August 9th, at 11.30 a.m., in the Circus Renz.

*The Next International Congress.*—Professor Virchow opened the meeting with the statement that the city of Rome had expressed its thanks, by telegram, for the decision to hold the Congress of 1893 in that city. The telegram had been sent by the Royal Commissary, who now administered the city of Rome. Signor Crispi also sent a telegram, in which he, as the Prime Minister, expressed his thanks to the same effect in the name of the Italian Government. Professor Virchow urged his hearers to attend the Congress at Rome. He also remarked that the city of Chicago had, in the meanwhile, addressed an invitation to the Congress to hold its next meeting there, as the Universal Exhibition would take place in 1893 in that city. This invitation, however, had, of course, to be refused. The Imperial University of Tomsk (Russia), and the Municipality of the health-resort of Teplitz had also sent greetings to the Congress. The Grand Duchess of Baden, as the Prussian Minister of Education, Dr. von Gossler announced, had addressed to the latter the following telegram:—"The great Congress which is now near its conclusion has, no doubt, during its important session, recalled to your memory the kind and intelligent interest with which my late mother (the Empress Augusta of Germany) would have followed its course. I feel it necessary to say this." The Minister remarked that he had instantly answered the Grand Duchess by telegraph as follows:—"The Congress has hitherto had a splendid course, and has been a great manifestation of peaceful cultural work." Professor Virchow then spoke some warm words of commendation of the late Empress Augusta. He

mentioned her high merits in the furtherance of science and of practical philanthropy, the foundation of hospitals and asylums, etc., and her great merits in making use of the vast resources of international societies—such as were chiefly represented by the *Roths Kreuz*—for the welfare of suffering mankind. Professor Crocq, of Brussels, then took the chair, and the scientific proceedings began with the address of Professor Horatio Wood, of Philadelphia, on anaesthesia. Professor Cantani, of Naples, next spoke on antipyresis.

*Various Proposals.*—After a short interruption of the proceedings, some business matters were dealt with. Two propositions were made, namely, one as to the establishment of an international sanitary convention, and the other as to the foundation of an international hygienic society. Professor Virchow declared that these propositions had nothing to do with the present Congress. A third proposition was brought forward, that a permanent international association of physicians should be established. Professor Virchow declared that this matter could not be discussed before the meeting at Rome, even if it could be discussed at all.

*The Exhibition.*—The General Secretary, Dr. Lassar, then stated that at the instance of the Prussian Minister of Education, Dr. v. Gossler, the exhibition of the Congress would be open until the end of August, and that the Minister intended to take steps to found a permanent medical exhibition at Berlin.

*Addresses by Professors Meynert and Stokvis.*—The two last lectures of the meeting and the Congress then followed, namely, that of Professor Meynert, of Vienna, on the Co-operation of the Parts of the Brain, and that of Professor B. T. Stokvis, of Amsterdam, on the Comparative Pathology of Races and the Power of Resistance of Europeans in the Tropical Regions.

*Professor Virchow's Farewell Address.*—The final act of the last general meeting was the concluding speech of the President of the Congress, Professor Virchow, and the addresses of the foreign delegates. Professor Virchow said that never before had there been so large an attendance at a medical Congress, or one of which the proceedings had been so important. He continued: we shall never forget that no limits of space, no political or religious differences, have prevented you coming to us, with us to seek for truth—pure and objective truth. We have no right to judge of the value of our proceedings; those who have not taken part in it must judge it, and we have neither the right nor the inclination to anticipate their verdict. But we may say this, that the proceedings have been up to the level of knowledge which modern medicine has reached. In eighteen Sections and two Sub-sections the work of the meeting has been done almost without a hitch, and each of us leaves the Congress with the feeling that a great and difficult piece of work has been done here, and that he carries home with him an increase of knowledge.

The members of the Congress who spoke after Virchow's concluding speech also expressed their satisfaction with the course of the Congress, the great hospitality shown to them, and the activity of the Committee, particularly the President. The speakers after Virchow were: Billings, in the name of the United States, who, though speaking English, concluded his address, amid great amusement, with the words used in Prussia: "Gesegnete Mahlzeit" ("Blessed meat," used after dinner, and also as a salutation). Professor Schnitzler, of Vienna, spoke on behalf of Austria; Csätari for