

cally every civilized country in the world. When the Congress met in London in 1881 there were about half the number present and the work was done in fifteen sections. On this occasion there were twenty-three sections.

The Congress was opened by Prince Arthur of Connaught, who conveyed to the Congress the greetings of His Majesty, the King, and thus we see the highest citizen in the greatest empire in the world, taking an interest in the welfare of mankind where vital interests are most deeply felt.

Sir Edward Grey, in eloquent language, bade the Congress welcome in the name of the Government. He said that "Medicine and Surgery are as near the study of what the lay mind would call the secret of the universe as any conceivable form of science could be."

Sir Thomas Barlow, on rising to deliver his presidential address, was greeted with marked enthusiasm. Many Canadians have met him and know what a rare type of the true gentleman he is. Great as he is as a physician, he is still greater as a man. He dwelt at some length on the great work of Lister and Koch, and showed what the world owed to the practical man on the one hand and the scientist on the other. If these two names be taken together it will be possible to estimate the enormous progress made by medicine and surgery during the past fifty years. Lister gave us antiseptic surgery, and Koch that knowledge of bacteria that has enabled nations to fight successfully many infectious and epidemic diseases.

Another feature that stands out is that the people are now becoming more and more alive to the great advantages of scientific research and wise experiment. At first this was too much for the ordinary mind to grasp, but the "dry light" of science can now be borne by the human eye. So it comes that the wealthy are now endowing research laboratories, where the keenest minds of the day are interrogating nature, and making her divulge her secrets for the good of men.

But, surely, there is another influence from such a congress. Several thousand educated and scientific minds meet. They imbibe new ideas and then they return home. Surely we may expect that they will use their influence, as was urged upon them, to prevent war. The medical profession is for the saving of life and the healing of the nations.

The Right Hon. John Burns, in his great address before the Congress, among other things, thanked the medical profession for what it had done in lowering the death rate. He said:

The doctors were entitled to thanks for the improvements they had effected in the science of the cure and prevention of diseases, emphasized by the result of the combined application of medical and sanitary science