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Contributors

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MEDICINE (INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
of 1906).

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COPY of REPORT of SIR DYCE DUCKWORTH, M.D., LL.D., the
Delegate of His Majesty's Government to the International
Congress of Medicine, held at Lisbon from the 19th to the
26th April, 1906.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



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INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MEDICINE,
LISBON, 1906.

SIR DYCE DUCKWORTH'S REPORT.

To the Lord President of the Privy Council, etc., etc.

MY LORD,

I have to report that I duly proceeded to Lisbon to attend the 15th International Medical Congress, held there from the 19th to the 26th ultimo, as the official Representative of the British Government.

I presented myself to the Minister at the British Legation, and was most kindly received by him.

The proceedings of the Congress began on the 19th of April, and the assembly was held in the large hall of the Geographical Society. Their Majesties the King, Queen, Queen-Mother, (Maria Pia) and the Crown Prince attended the Meeting in State. A large number of the general public appeared to be present, and somewhat crowded out the Delegates and Members of the Congress.

The King delivered an admirable Address in French, and the several Government Delegates subsequently addressed the Congress in the languages permitted—English, French or German.

I delivered the following Address, in English, in the name of Great Britain :—

“ May it please Your Majesties,
Mr. President, and all Members of the 15th International Medical Congress, my British colleagues, for whom I have the honour to speak, feel the greatest pleasure and gratification in being present at this splendid inauguration of our meeting in your brilliant capital, and in taking their part in the work of this Congress. We highly appreciate the gracious Royal patronage which is extended to us, and we know that we are welcomed by the leaders of our great profession in this country. As British subjects, we feel much at home here amongst a friendly and closely associated people. As cultivators of knowledge and truth, we rejoice to think that our profession everywhere lives in a higher atmosphere than that which is apt to be disturbed in the dusty arena of politics, and by the various phases of International strife and competition. Our efforts are always for the best interests of humanity the world over.

In the name of my countrymen, and I am sure I may add of our countrywomen, I would express our heartfelt thanks to the great Portuguese Nation for its warm reception of us to-day in its beautiful capital.

Viva Sua Magestade El-Rei! Viva Sua Magestade a Rainha! Viva Sua Alteza o Principe Real!"

The final sentence evoked great enthusiasm.

The regular business of the Congress began on the following day when the several sections, twenty in number, were opened. The proceedings were carried on in English, French, and German.

Amongst the *Présidents d'Honneur* of the Congress were the following British Members:—Dr. Pavy, F.R.S., Dr. Ferrier, F.R.S., Dr. Ferguson, Mr. Mayo Robson, Sir Thomas Barlow, and myself.

The arrangements and the organization generally were good. The meetings were all held in the new School of Medicine, and the accommodation was ample.

One of the most noteworthy contributions to the Section of Medicine was that of Dr. Pavy, of London, embodying his recent researches on the nature of diabetes. Professor Boyce, of Liverpool, delivered an important public address on the management of Yellow Fever epidemics, founded on his experience of the late outbreak in New Orleans. Many of the Papers were not read for want of time, but keen debates arose over some in several of the Sections. It was manifestly impossible to attend more than a few of the Sections. The best work was done in those of Medicine, Surgery, Ophthalmology, and Tropical Medicine. Valuable contributions were made to the subject of Tuberculosis, and that of the modern serum treatment of certain diseases. Professor Moore, of Liverpool, related some of his recent researches in Cancer. Reports of these and other Papers are now appearing at length in our Medical Journals, and thus the latest results of the Congress will soon be widely known through the Empire. I read a Paper in the Section of Medicine on Chorea, or St. Vitus' Dance, showing its dependence on rheumatic infection, as now established. In the Section of Tropical Medicine, a valuable communication was made by Professor Laveran, of Paris, on Trypanosomiasis and the treatment of Protozoal diseases, also by Professor Martini, of Berlin. The treatment of Typhoid Fever by prophylactic inoculation was also brought forward by Professor Dieudonné, of Munich, in which he adduced satisfactory evidence of its efficiency amongst the German troops in South-West Africa, thus supporting the researches of Dr. Wright, F.R.S., of London, who originated it. An important discussion took place on the surgical treatment of certain diseases of the kidney. Professor Unna, of Hamburg, contributed some interesting fresh researches on the subject of Leprosy. A new serum for the treatment of dysentery was described by Professor Vaillard, of Lyons, and Dr. Dieudonné reported on the use of sera for the treatment of Cholera, Plague, and Typhoid Fever, which appeared to be encouraging. Various lantern

and cinematographic demonstrations were made, illustrating the varieties of convulsions in Epilepsy, and the gait in several forms of Paralysis. Professor Sauerbruck exhibited his chamber for securing a negative atmospheric pressure so as to secure the performance of operations on the lungs without risk of collapse of these organs.

The prize awarded by the City of Moscow on these occasions was awarded to Dr. Laveran, of Paris, the great authority on the parasitic origin of Malaria, and the Paris prize went to Professor Erlich, an eminent German histologist.

At the final Meeting, it was decided to hold the next of these Congresses at Budapesth in 1909, invitations having been sent from New York, Athens, Tokio, and Brussels.

The King gave a State Dinner-party to 180 of the Delegates and leading Members of the Congress at the Palace of the Queen-Mother. I was present at this function, and was subsequently presented to the King, Queen, Queen-Mother, and the Crown Prince by Sir Francis Villiers, together with the several British Members present.

The Ministers gave an evening reception to the Delegates. The King gave a Garden Party at the Necessidades Palace to the whole Congress, when more presentations took place.

The greatest kindness and courtesy was extended on all hands to the Members by the Royal, Ministerial, and Municipal authorities, and a most favourable impression was left on the minds of all participants in this International Meeting.

I have to express my warm appreciation of the kindness and attention I, and others of our countrymen, received from our Minister, Sir Francis Villiers. He was unsparing of his time and efforts to assist and entertain our Delegates, and we all owe him a debt of gratitude.

(Signed)

DYCE DUCKWORTH, M.D., LL.D.

Delegate of the British Government
to the Congress.

11, Grafton Street,
Piccadilly, W.

7th May 1906.

