#### Annual report : 1882 / National Health Society.

#### Contributors

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## NATIONAL HEALTH SOCIETY.

#### 1881-82.

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#### General Committee.

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3. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to meet at least twice a month, to direct the business of the Society, except during the vacation as shall from time to time be determined. It must consist of as many as seven Members, of whom three shall constitute a quorum. It shall have power to add to its number, and to appoint Sub-committees.

4. The Members of the General Committee may be consulted at any time by the Executive Committee. They may be invited to preside over or otherwise to assist at public meetings.

5. The payment of one guinea, annually, constitutes Membership, or, ten guineas at once, Life-Membership. Members will be notified of all Meetings, Lectures and Discussions. They will be assisted by the Secretary to obtain any sanitary information they may desire, and will be entitled to one copy of all Reports and transactions issued by the Society.

6. These and all future Laws may be altered or added to at a General Meeting of the Members, special notice of the alteration being given a fortnight beforehand.

7. Annual Subscribers of sums under one guinea are entitled to Notice of Meetings, &c., and the Annual Report. OFFICE DAYS\_MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS. HOURS\_2 TILL 5 O'CLOCK P.M.

# REPORT.

The Committee of the National Health Society have pleasure in laying before their friends and subscribers the ninth Annual Report of the Society's work.

The following is a list of lectures which have been delivered during 1881, under the auspices of the Society :--

DATE.		LECTURERS.	, . PLACE.
Jan.	11	Miss E. Barnett	
		" Practical Cookery."	Halstead.
,,	17	Miss E. Barnett	Church of Pilgrim
		"Foods and Drinks."	Fathers.
,,	18	Miss E. Barnett	
		"Cookery."	Halstead.
,,	24	Miss E. Barnett	South London In-
		" Air and Ventilation."	stitute.
	25	Miss E. Barnett	
		" Cookery."	Halstead.
,,,	26	Miss E. Barnett	
		"Health and Disease."	Chelmsford.
,,	31	Miss E. Barnett	South London In-
		" Clothing."	stitute.
Feb.	1	Miss E. Barnett	
		"Cookery."	Halstead
,,	7	Miss E. Barnett	South London In-
		" The Children."	stitute.

DAT	F.	LECTURER.	PLACE.
Feb.	8	Miss E. Barnett	
		" Cookery."	Halstead.
	15	Miss E. Barnett	
		" Cookery."	Halstead.
.,,	22	Dr. Pope:	
		"Work and Play."	Basingstoke,
	22	Miss E. Barnett	St. John's Mission
		" Foods and Drinks."	House.
"	22	Dr. Greville Walpole	
,,		"Healthy Houses."	Battersea, E,
Mar.	1	Miss E. Barnett	
		"Management of the Sick."	St. John's, E.
1.10	8	Miss E. Barnett	
"	Ŭ	"The Children."	St. John's, E,
	8	Dr. Pope	
"		"Alcohol."	Battersea.
	14	Dr. Pope	Datiersen
"	11	"Fresh Air."	Kennington.
	15	Miss E. Barnett	inclining ton.
"	10	"Preventible Disease."	St. John's, E.
	21		St. Jonn's, 12.
"	21	Dr. Pope " Good Water."	Vannington
	00		Kennington.
"	28	Dr. Pope	Working Men's
		"Good Food."	Club, Kenning-
		D D	ton.
April	4	Dr. Pope	TT · ·
		"Healthy Dwellings."	Kennington.
,,	11	Dr. Pope	
		"Preventible Diseases."	
,,	22	Prof. Fleeming Jenkin, F.R.S	
		"Sanitary House Inspec-	the second se
	Superior State	tion."	Mayfair.
,,	29	Dr. Robert Farquharson, M.P.	
		"Health in Public Schools."	Mayfair.
-			and the second s

These lectures are given on application from the clergy, district visitors or ladies holding mothers' meetings. In some cases a payment of 10s. 6d. is expected, but in very poor neighbourhoods the lectures are given gratuitously.

6

DAT	E.	LECTURER.	PLACE.
May	6	C. N. Cresswell, Esq "Sanitary Relations of Local Self-Government."	Hertford Street.
"	13	Henry Power, Esq., M.B., F.R.C.S	
	00	Eye."	Hertford Street.
"	20	Dr. Siemens, F.R.S., LL.D. "Stoves and Grates."	Hertford Street.
,,	21	Mrs. Johnstone	
		"Prevention of the Spread of Fevers."	St. Clement's Danes.
,,	23	Miss E. Barnett	St. Mary Abbott's.
	00	"Foods and Drinks."	Kensington.
"	23 27	Mrs. Johnstone	Lowndes Square.
"		"Hospitals, Old and New."	Hertford Street.
June	9	Mrs. Johnstone	London Bible
		"Prevention of the Spread of Fevers."	Women and Domestic Female Mission.
"	15	Mrs. Ernest Hart "Alcohol, Food or Physic?"	Moffat Institute.
Sept.	28	Dr. Pope " Good Food."	Battersea.
Oct.	18	Dr. Pope "Healthy Dwellings."	Battersea.
"	24	Dr. Dawson Williams "Germs."	St. Peter's School- room, Battersea
Nov.	2	Dr. Dawson Williams "Health in the House."	Prittlewell.
"	8	Miss E. Barnett	All Hallowes Mis- sion House, S.E.
"	27	Dr. Dawson Williams "Germs."	Bryanston Club.
	30	Dr. Peter Hinckes Bird "Simplicity in Sanitary Ap- pliances."	Wimbledon Town Hall.

DATE. LECTURER. PLACE. Dec. 7 .. Mr. Noble Smith ...... "Fashionable Deformities." Wimbledon. ,, 7 .. Miss E. Barnett..... St. Mary Abbott's.

MAYFAIR LECTURES .- The drawing-room lectures were again given at 23, Hertford Street, Mayfair, by most kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Matthews. Prof. Fleeming Jenkins' lecture on "Sanitary House Inspection," proved the grave importance of thoroughness in house sanitation. Dr. Robert Farquharson, M.P., gave a most able lecture on "Health in Public Schools." C. N. Cresswell, Esq., one on "Sanitary Relations of Local Self-Government," which provoked much discussion. This lecture has been printed. Henry Power, Esq., on the "Care and Education of the Eye," was listened to with great attention; he touched on the danger of neglecting eyesight in youth, and pointed out how often such care was disregarded. Dr. Siemens', F.R.S., lecture on "Stoves and Grates," was fully illustrated with diagrams, and attracted a very large audience. Henry C. Burdett, Esq., was kind enough to give a lecture on "Hospitals, Old and New," instead of the lecture which had been advertised to be given by Mr. Ernest Hart, on "Recent Progress in Health Knowledge." Mr. Hart was unavoidably detained abroad, and Mr. Henry C. Burdett was good enough to take his place. These lectures were well reported in the daily papers.

The Committee take this opportunity of again thanking the gentlemen who so generously gave their services for the benefit of members of the Society. Members of the National Health Society are admitted free to these lectures, the public on payment of 2s. 6d. for each lecture,

MRS. JOHNSTONE'S LECTURES .- Mrs. Johnstone, Superintendent of the Hastings Sanitary Aid Association, gave a most practical address, in the chapel of St. Clement's Danes, to a very large audience of district visitors, Bible women, mission women, and district nurses, on "The Prevention of the Spread of Fevers." She plainly showed how possible it is, with care and precaution, to prevent a single case of fever from spreading, even in the most crowded districts. Mrs. Johnstone's pamphlet and a condensed paper on "The Prevention of Scarlet Fever," published by the National Health Society, were distributed after the address. On June 23rd, Mrs. Johnstone adddressed a large audience of ladies and gentlemen at the house of Mrs. Laurence Cave, in Lowndes Square; Dr. Bristowe, F.R.S., in the chair. Many of the clergy and members of the medical profession were present at this lecture. Mrs. Johnstone also addressed Mrs. Leonard's Bible Mission women while in London, and read a paper on the "Teaching of the Prevention of the Spread of Fever" at the Domestic Economy Congress at the Society of Arts.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY CONGRESS.—Several members of the Committee and the Secretary of the National Health Society interested themselves in the meeting of this Congress, which was convened for the purpose of urging the importance of the teaching of Domestic Economy in Elementary schools, and took official part in the proceedings. Several members of the National Health Society read papers on this subject.

MRS. ERNEST HART'S LECTURE, on "Alcohol, Food or Physic?" has proved most popular, and has been much asked for. It has been published in *The Church of England Temperance Chronicle*, and has now been reprinted by the Church of England Temperance Society for distribution at the rate of six shillings per hundred.

Dr. Peter Hinckes Bird and Mr. E. Noble Smith were kind enough to lecture for the Society to an audience of ladies, at the Town Hall, Wimbledon, in December. The subject of Dr. Bird's lecture was "Simplicity in Sanitary appliances;" that of Mr. Noble Smith's, "Fashicnable Deformities." The lecture was illustrated by an extensive series of diagrams.

PLUMBERS' LECTURES .- A course of practical lectures, specially addressed to working plumbers, and illustrated by a costly and valuable collection, of examples, diagrams, working models, and demonstrations, of "The Science and Art of Sanitary Plumbing," was organized by the National Health Society, and delivered by Mr. S. Stevens Hellyer, Esq., author of "The Plumber and Sanitary Houses," at the rooms of the Society of Arts (by kind permission of the Council of that Society.) Applications for free tickets to these lectures were so numerous, more than 700 men coming for tickets for the first night, that the Committee had to beg Mr. Hellyer to repeat his course, so as to enable all the men anxious to profit by his instruction to do so. That some further good might result to the plumbers attending the lectures, the National Health Society arranged to award prizes and medals to the men who passed certain examinations in the art and science of plumbing. The examinations, will be of a practical nature, the men having to show their skill in the presence of the judges. They will take place next month at South Kensington, and the following prizes will be awarded :- Duke of Westminster, £5; National Health

Society's prize, £5; Society of Arts, medal; Mr. Ernest Turner's silver medal; and several bronze medals. Certificates will be awarded to all those who show their proficiency. The following is the syllabus of the course :—

- (1.) Introductory. Unsanitary Plumbing; Force of Prejudice; Importance of Knowledge of Principles; Who should call themselves Plumbers? Need of a School of Plumbing.
- (2.) Joints and Pipe Bending. Wiped Soldered Joints:-Underhand, Upright, Branch, Block, Flange, Taft. Copper-Bit Joints:-Float, Ribbon, Overcast, Blowpipe Joints, Pipe Bending.
- (3.) Traps and Trap-Ventilation. The necessity of Traps proved by practical experiments; Traps which form themselves into collecting boxes or cesspools; Self-cleansing Traps; Trap syphonage; Trap ventilation.
- (4.) House Drainage and Ventilation. Soil Pipes; General Waste Pipes; Cistern Wastes; Safe Wastes; Connections of Branch-Pipes with Main Pipes, &c.; Value of good Water Flushing, &c.
- (5.) House Drainage and Ventilation. Disconnection of Soil Pipes and Waste Pipes from Drains, and of Drains from Sewers and Cesspools; Ventilation of Soil Pipes, Waste Pipes, and Drains. Summing up.
- (6.) The Art of Lead Laying.

STALL AT MEDICAL AND SANITARY EXHIBI-TION.—At the request of the Committee of the National Health Society, the Committee of the Medical and Sanitary Exhibition granted a stall to the National Health Society for work done by plumbers attending Mr. Hellyer's lectures. The dust receptacle devised by Mr. Noble Smith was also exhibited. The jurors of the Sanitary Exhibition awarded a certificate of merit to Mrs. Priestley, for her Floral Art Ventilator. This artistic and hygienic invention can be seen and purchased at Messrs. Howell and James' new Art Galleries, Waterloo Place.

HIGH SCHOOL PRIZES.—The Prizes offered by the National Health Society for Laws of Health in the North London Collegiate School for Girls, have this year been gained by the Misses Covan, Robertson, Miall and Buchanan.

BOARD SCHOOL PRIZES.—LONDON.—There has been an increase of 36 in the number of competitors, and 3 in the number of schools, compared with last year. The competition this year was limited to children in Standards 5, 6, and 4, 6, so that the increase in number is all the more gratifying; 251 girls from 14 schools came up for examination.

LIVERPOOL.—Seventy-two candidates went up this year for the National Health Society's Prizes.

SWIMMING PRIZES.—Mrs. Priestley this year gave a prize for the girls in the London Schools' Swimming Club.

OPEN SPACES, WIMBLEDON COMMON.—A petition, signed by order of a general meeting of the Society, was presented to the House of Commons by Dr. Farquharson, begging for the abandonment of the proposed railway across Wimbledon Common. The matter was brought before the Society by their Treasurer, Mr. H. W. Lawrence.

WATER SUPPLY.—Memorials to both the Houses of Parliament, begging for a constant Water Supply for the Metropolis, were presented, that to the Lords by the Bishop of London, to the Commons by Dr. Farquharson.\*

DUST REMOVAL.-A sub-Committee was formed in the spring of the past year for the purpose of endeavouring to effect a reform in the systems of dust removal and disposal in the Metropolis. Under the system of collection which now exists, houses are made unhealthy by the decomposition of animal and vegetable refuse, which is allowed to remain too long undisturbed, and which can seldom be completely removed from dust-bins. As things now are hundreds of people are employed in the revolting occupation of sorting the refuse. It is unnecessary here to enlarge on the evil influence upon the health of the community of this plan of dealing with house refuse. After full enquiry into the arrangements adopted in various large towns throughout the country, the sub-Committee issued a circular to the Metropolitan Vestries, requesting them to take some action in the matter, and offering a few suggestions for their consideration. It was proposed that dust-bins should be abolished and metal tubs substituted; that the collection should be systematised, and each house should be visited not less than twice in every week; that the householder should be obliged to allow this frequent removal of the refuse; that the refuse should be destroyed by fire (the latter suggestion inferring that the plan of sorting should be abolished). From the letters which were received in answer to this circular we find that the majority of the Vestries cordially approve of the suggestions offered. The Vestry of the

\* See Appendix for Petition.

Parish of St. John, Hampstead, has been foremost in its endeavours to introduce the use of tubs in the place of dust-bins, and other Vestries are also endeavouring to effect a similar improvement. In the parish of St, Mary Abbott's, Kensington, the Vestry Clerk reports that a house-to-house visitation at frequent and regular intervals, has been in force for three or four years. and has worked well. At St. Mary, Newington, the district has been divided into six sub-districts, each of which is visited once a week, and great care is taken to prevent the accumulation of refuse in the dust-bins. In Bermondsev, also, the plan adopted is superior to that of some other parishes. The St. Pancras Vestry have for a long time past been enquiring into the subject, with a view to reforming the oldfashion system. They have issued a voluminous report, which shows how many difficulties have to be dealt with. Their chief aim appears to be the effectual disposal of the refuse. It will thus be seen that there exists a great desire upon the part of the Metropolitan Vestries to adopt improved systems of dust and refuse removal, but it is a noteworthy fact that hitherto they are considerably behind many of the northern towns. Fryer's process of carbonizing and of destroying the refuse, has been used for some time (for several years in some instances) at the following places :- Leeds, Manchester, Bradford, Warrington, Stafford, Rochdale, Bolton, Birmingham, Blackburn, Rotherham, Derby, and Bury. Dr. Sedgwick Saunders, Medical Officer of Health for the City of London, has published a report upon the disposal of refuse, which shows that active steps are contemplated by the authorities of the Central district as well as by the St. Pancras Vestry, and doubtless

before long reformation with regard to the disposal will be effected, but an improved system of collection and the abolition of house dust-bins are less likely to be enforced by the authorities. The sub-Committee of this Society believe that such improvements must be brought about chiefly by individual action, and they urge all householders to adopt the following suggestions .--(1,) To abolish the dustbins, and substitute metal tubs or sacks. (2.) And insist upon the regular and frequent collection by the dust contractors. A lady member of the Committee (Mrs. Priestley) has instituted the plan of employing a few sacks, which are suspended upon parallel bars. When the dustman calls, he carries away the sack or sacks full of dust, and returns them empty upon his next visit. By this means all the material is carried away, time is saved in the collection, and many of the evils of the present system are avoided.

SEATS.—In the summer of 1881, Lord Brabazon brought before the Society the desirability of making further efforts in the direction of placing seats in the public thoroughfares of London and the suburbs, and gave a donation of  $\pounds 50$  to the Society to encourage the scheme. The following is a letter written by his Lordship, which will explain the lines on which the Society is now working :—

> STREET ADORNMENT AND RECREATION." To the Editor of the "Daily News."

SIR,—All who visit the Continent for the first time are struck by the number of open gardens (not closed squares), of shady boulevards, of little unexpected oases of green turf and foliage in odd corners, all provided with comfortable seats for the accommodation of the weary pedestrian, and inviting him to rest awhile and be thankful. Perhaps the traveller may

remember some hot, sultry day when, jaded with trudging over scorching pavements, and wearied with the fatigue of sightseeing, he may have thrown himself into one of these comfortable benches, and shaded by the overhanging boughs of maple, plane, or chesnut, and lulled by the plashing sound of some neighbouring fountain, he may have enjoyed a few moments of peaceful rest. If so, did he ever ask himself whether in his own country, under similar circumstances, he could, outside the recognised parks, have found such sweet repose? The only answer, alas! which could possibly be returned to such a query would be a negative one. Neither our Government nor our municipal authorities as yet consider themselves called upon to provide boulevards, and seats, and bands, and fountains, for the enjoyment and amusement of the people. Public opinion has of late years advanced in this direction, but it is still unprepared to sanction the expenditure of public money on objects which in this country would still be considered luxuries. The time will doubtless shortly come when owing to the growth of London, and the impossibility of large masses of the people obtaining the means of quiet recreation in the open air so needful to health, it will be found necessary for some strong central authority to take action in the matter, and save to the people the small open spaces which may still remain uncovered by bricks and mortar. But in the meantime, and until this muchto-be-desired millennium shall have arrived, it is to be hoped that they who considered that action in the matter should be taken at once will put themselves into communication with the National Health Society, a body which has been quietly working on these lines for some years, and which deserves to be better known. It has already formed a sub-committee for the special purpose of endeavouring to supply London with these little refinements of civilised town life-refinements which may indeed be almost considered necessaries, inasmuch as they conduce in so great a degree to health. London still possesses many broad thoroughfares, which might with advantage be turned into smiling boulevards, and many small but unoccupied spaces which, instead of being gaunt deserts only tenanted by stray cats and covered with fluttering pieces of dirty paper, could at small expense be made into little harbours of refuge from the turmoil of the City, where a few flowers, a bench or

two, a shady tree, would enable the over-worked City clerk and artisan to take his book or his pipe, and in quiet enjoy the pleasure of simple rest after a hard day's toil. May I hope that through your kindness some may be induced to come forward and aid the society in its efforts to brighten the aspect of our streets and to increase the health and enjoyment of our City population? Gifts of seats, or donations in money will be gratefully received by the Secretary, whose office is at 44, Berners Street, W.

Believe me, Sir, your obedient servant,

BRABAZON.

#### Travellers' Club,

Pall Mall, S.W., June 10.

Seats have been placed, at the expense of the National Health Society, in the New Kent Road and in Hornsey. Lord Brabazon has personally presented those in Trafalgar Square. The Committee have urged various parishes to put them up in the Fitzjohn's Avenue, Portland Place, Brompton Road, and Baker Street. A memorial, signed by many of the principal inhabitants of the street, has been forwarded to the Marylebone Vestry, begging for the planting of trees and the erection of a certain number of seats. The Committee have obtained permission from the Bridge House Estate Committee to plant another tree and erect seats in the Triangle, Union Street, Borough,—a crowded district, with little or no breathing space.

#### Donations to Seats Fund.

Lord Brabazon			£50	0	0
Duke of Westminster	an inello		10	0	0
Mrs. Chaplin	11		5	0	0
A. Crowder, Esq	and the start of		5	0	0
F. D. Mocatta, Esq			3	0	0
George Godwin, Esq.			- 2	2	.0
Mrs. Montefiore	In person		1	0	0
- Alexander, Esq	Ide in	7	1	0	0

Mrs. Baxter	1051.03 83	 0 10	0
Miss Browne Clayton	a planner more	 0 10	0
Miss Bird	S 200 5	 0 10	0
Lady Lannington		 0 5	0

This fund will be kept open, and new donations are earnestly requested.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—The movement set on foot by the National Health Society has been carried on actively during the year by the Smoke Abatement Committee, which is now composed of members of the National Health and Kyrle Societies, and persons desirous of promoting the object.

In order to invite broad consideration of the subject, to elicit public opinion, to encourage improvements in heating and smoke-preventing appliances, and to diffuse a knowledge of their use, the Committee, at the end of 1880, appointed a deputation to wait upon the Lord Mayor and ask him to convene a public meeting at the Mansion House on the subject, which he consented to do; and a meeting was accordingly held in January under His Lordship's presidency. Among other resolutions, the following was proposed by the Right Hon. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., First Commissioner of Works, and carried unanimously: "That this meeting is further of opinion that the injurious effects of fog are largely due to the quantities of smoke given forth from the chimneys of furnaces, manufactories, and steam vessels, as well as dwelling-houses, and that the smoke in the Metropolis might, without any considerable difficulty, be greatly lessened by the better enforcement of the existing law, by the introduction of amended legislation, and by the general use, in all descriptions of premises, including dwelling-places, of proper smoke-preventing apparatus, of improved household stoves and grates, or of smokeless fuel." The late Dean of Westminster; Sir U. K. Shuttleworth; Mr. Hart; Mr. Spottiswoode, the President of the Royal Society; and Mr. Burton, Keeper of the National Gallery, were among the speakers.

Shortly afterwards, at a public meeting held by the Kyrle Society, the President, H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, referred with warm approval to this movement as part of the Society's work, and a resolution in support of it was passed by the meeting.

On Tuesday, July 26th, a largely attended meeting was held at Grosvenor House, by permission of the Duke of Westminster, President of the National Health Society. In the absence of the Duke of Northumberland the chair was taken by Mr. Ernest Hart, Chairman of the Council of this Society. H.R.H. the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, was present, and high scientific and medical evidence was born by Dr. Siemens, F.R.S.; Sir Henry Thompson; Dr. Quain, F.R.S.; and Mr. Spencer Wells, to the scientific importance and reasonableness, and the hygienic value, of the objects in view.

The Committee proceeded to complete arrangements, by the permission of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education, and of the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society, for the Exhibition to be held in the buildings erected for the International Exhibition of 1862, of improved fire-grates, furnaces, kitcheners, cooking, warming, and other apparatus of all kinds, devised to prevent smoke or to consume smokeless fuel; the Exhibition to include varieties of bituminous and anthracite or smokeless coal, and special fuel for household fires and furnaces. In the Catalogue the various exhibits will be found classified and arranged under sections. Arrangements were also made for the fitting-up of some buildings for the purpose of testing the efficiency of grates, stoves, and other appliances suited for domestic use; and trials of various fuels and boiler appliances were also provided in the Exhibition Buildings and in the Royal Albert Hall, and at certain factories in which facilities were offered by the proprietors. It was resolved that the testing of apparatus should be made as far as possible under the following conditions :—

TRIALS OF APPARATUS AND FUELS.

- (1.) Domestic Heating Appliances—viz., Grates, Stoves, and Kitcheners and Kitchen open Ranges—should be tested for heating power, cost, convenience, quality of combustion, and their comparative freedom from smoke and noxious vapours. Various Fuels and New Appliances for the utilization of Anthracite and other Smokeless Coals to be tried. Gas-heating apparatus, in which great improvements have recently been made, to be tested and compared.
- (2.) In regard to the testing of Furnaces and apparatus for industrial purposes, a greater difficulty presents itself; but trials of some of the more recent improvements in Boiler apparatus were to be made with the special object of testing the combustion of fuel and the prevention of smoke, having regard also to evaporative performance.

The Committee engaged the services of Mr. D. Kinnear Clark, M. Inst. C.E., to superintend the trials under the direction of the Executive Committee. Professor W. Chandler Roberts, F.R.S., has drawn up a scheme for the chemical testing in connection with the trials of fuel, grates, and stoves.

The Committee have felt—and have been confirmed therein by very numerous expressions of opinion, as a result of extended correspondence with persons of experience representing all classes in London, the provinces, and abroad—that such an Exhibition and testing, carried out under the direction of a Committee of experts, would be of national value—

- (1.) By tending directly to a better utilisation of coal and coal products.
- (2.) By determining practically and scientifically the means which are actually available for heating houses, as at present (and as may be constructed) without producing smoke.
- (3.) By enabling the Committee to examine the subject generally, and report, for public information, upon the relative adaptability of the various coals and appliances to the different requirements of every class of the community.
- (4.) By affording reliable information upon which to base sufficient and equitable amendments of the existing laws regarding smoke.
- (5.) By enabling the Committee to ascertain and make known the comparative value of existing appliances for the utilisation of Gas for the purpose of heating, and generally bringing together the available material for determining how far smoke may be prevented, and testing numerous inventions, many of which are very little known.

Valuable prizes have been offered by Dr. Siemens, by friends in Manchester, and by a committee of ladies, and a medal by the Society of Arts, which, together with Certificates of Honour, will be awarded on the report of the Judges.

The Exhibition was opened on the 30th November by the Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs of London and Middlesex. The ceremony was performed in the Royal Albert Hall, in the presence of His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne, H.R.H. Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), and a large and distinguished assembly. It has since been visited by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who was pleased to express his high satisfaction of the Exhibition and his approval of the work of the Committee. The Exhibition has been largely attended by persons of eminence in all departments of Science, Art and Manufactures, and by deputations from a great number of the trades and of societies connected with the subject.

The Committee trust that the opportunity afforded by the Exhibition of various appliances in action, and of improved fuels, and the trials carried on, will result in the extensive adoption by householders and manufacturers of the most successful and useful of the improvements shown, and that the impetus thus given to industrial energy and scientific ingenuity will bring about yet further improvements in the art and practice of heating, without unnecessary production of smoke. The Committee hope, also, that the Exhibition will prove of advantage to the exhibitors, who have incurred considerable labour and expense in bringing their exhibits before the public in the way recommended by the Committee.

Lectures are being frequently given explanatory of the Exhibition. Lectures to domestic servants are being arranged. The funds subscribed for the Smoke Abatement are quite independent of the subscriptions given to the general work of the Society, for which more funds would be most welcome.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS.—Earl of Derby, Messrs. Coutts, Lord Brabazon.

WANT OF LECTURERS.—The Committee would be glad to hear of those who, being competent are willing to give either gratuitous or paid lectures on subjects embraced by the Society, to audiences of various kinds.

• PUBLICATIONS.—The Society has issued a pamphlet on Vaccination, which has been revised by the Local Government Board, and sold at cost price to Unions throughout the country for house-to-house distribution.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

#### LEAFLETS.

#### 1d. each, 9d. per doz., 5s. per 100, 25s. per 1000.

- 1 Hints for Health.
- 2 The Prevention of Small Pox, and How to Prevent Small Pox from Spreading.

3 Fresh Air: Why we Want it, and How to Get it.

4 Cholera and Diarrhœa.

5 Simple Remedies.

6 How to Prevent Scarlet Fever.

7 Rules for the Management of Infants.

8 Typhoid, or Drain Fever: How to Prevent it.

9 How to Keep Typhoid Fever Out of Houses.

10 Measles.

11 In a Sick Room.

12 Verses on the Skin. Sir A. Power.

13 Sanitary Maxims, by T. P. Teale.

14 Cheap Disinfectants.

Health Almanack (Illustrated). If mounted on cardboard, 2d.

#### PAMPHLETS.

Facts Concerning Vaccination, for Heads of Families. Re-
vised by the Local Government Board, and issued with
their sanction. 1d. each, £1 1s. per 1000.
The Moral and Social Aspects of Health. Dr. Bridges 1d.
National Health Society's Cookery Book. Edith Barnett 1d.
Domestic Sanitary Works. R. Rawlinson, Esq., C.B 6d.
Compulsory Vaccination, by Dr. John Fox 3d.
The Religion of Health. Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell 6d.
Healthy Habitations. W. Eassie, Esq., C.E. (illustrated) 6d.
The Importance of Studying Temperaments. Dr. S. Wilks,
F.R.S 6d.
How to prevent the spread of Fever, and other Papers, by
Mrs. Johnstone 1s. and 2d.
Prevention of disease. Mrs. Shiel
Reports of the Society's Work Free

All these papers and pamphlets may be obtained by application to the Publishers, Allman and Son, 67, New Oxford Street, or from the Secretary, 44, Berners Street.

It is requested that Stamps or P.O.O. and Postage may be enclosed with the Order for Books or Papers.

It is proposed to present an Ambulance (with permission of the Ranger of the Parks) to Hyde Park, to be kept at one of the lodges for the easy conveyance of cases of accident.

It is requested as a special favour, that Members after reading their Reports, if they do not desire to keep them, will GIVE THEM AWAY, as by this means fresh friends may be secured.

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Examined and found correct, FREDERICK POPE, Auditor, 20th January, 1882.

HENRY WALDEMAR LAWRENCE, Hon. Treasurer.

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#### APPENDIX.

#### The humble Memorial of the NATIONAL HEALTH SOCIETY.

That your Memorialists beg to express their deep grief at the continued injuries to health, and miseries sustained, by the population, especially of the poorer classes of the Metropolis, by the continued delay of legislation, for the execution of proved measures of the prevention of injuries to health and life from defective local administration, by which delay the intermittent methods of the supply of water are continued, and good supplies where they exist are made bad and bad supplies are made worse; and by which system in the late severe weather, great misery has been occasioned, by the freezing of the water in cisterns, which, under a constant system would not exist; and by the bursting of pipes, which, under a public system of internal distribution, would be less exposed, if at all, to such accidents; also by the excessive filth of the streets, which, by the use of water from hydrants, might be more completely and less expensively cleansed, as is done under public systems in Paris and other capitals of the Continent.

Added to these evil conditions maintained by the delay of legislation and of proved measure, of prevention, are those of the excessive waste of water, to the extent nearly of a double rainfall, aggravating the supersaturation of ill-drained subsoils, supersaturation, with water, fouled with putrifactive matter, creating excessive damp and fogs, most prevalent in the lowest districts which are marked by excessive attacks of epidemics, and heavy death rates, which, during the late severe weather have been augmented, from 21, 22 to 27 and 29 per thousand of the population.

Added moreover to these evils, maintained by delay of proved executive measures, are those of the increasing number of serious fires, and losses of life by fires, amounting to a proved excess of two-thirds beyond the insurable rates in Manchester and other cities where the supplies are placed on a public footing, the streets hydranted, and the supplies are maintained at constant pressure immediately available by the police for the extinction of fire.

And your Memorialists humbly submit that the cost of the past delay of proved measures of legislation, and of proved administrative measures, preventive of the evils recited, will unavoidably be the further aggravation of the cost of the settled remedy by the unity of works on a public footing, inasmuch as the trading companies must go on as sanctioned by Parliament, in separate bills, investing more capital in separate works of extension, which, under unity of administration on a public footing would for the most part be unnecessary.

That the outlay on such separate works so sanctioned by Parliament, must be paid for, and by the delay of legislation, multiplied establishment charges, are continued, at an excess as shewn by the Government Water Examiner of nearly half of a million per annum, or an amount which, if economised by purchasers on equitable terms would, when capitalized, suffice for the removal of the evils specified, without any augmentation of the charges of the ratepayers.

Your Memorialists, refer to the final adoption by the last select Committee of the House of Commons of the general conclusion of former Commissions and Committees ;—that, for the abatement of the evils in question, that it will be necessary to resume the privileges conceded to the separate Companies and to place the supplies of the whole of the Metropolis, under one competent and responsible public trust.

Your Memorialists humbly pray, that for the work of such extraordinary magnitude, attended by such grave consequences, requiring for its successful achievement so much of sound sanitary science and of special engineering science and of administrative organisation-that the population may be protected from any rule derived from the authorative sources of such failures as those to which the extended cesspools comprised in the existing main drainage works ; the flooding of the lower districts and the disgraceful and fatally injurious conditions of the streets of the Metropolis, and its increasing heavy rates are proved to be owing. And your Memorialists earnestly pray for protection by better administration-by confiding the charge of the preparation of future work to the best available administrative experience, competency and trustworthiness ; as proved by distinguished efficiency, as well as economy or past service. And as a further security your Memorialists pray that any trust so composed, may be made provisional only for effecting the primary work of consolidation, with direct responsibility to Parliament, and for the selection and preparation of plans for approval as to any new sources of supply that may appear to be the most eligible.

And your Memorialists beg to represent, with the deepest regret as to the past government action on the question, that so long ago as August, 1876-they prayed by a memorial for relief, presented by a deputation, and earnestly and ably supported by Cardinal Manning and by the Right Hon. Dr. Lyon Playfair who is specially versed in the subject, to whom assurances were given of the early and earnest attention to the question by the Government, to which the premier had himself previously called attention ; but that the insurable cost of delay and failure since then, in the adoption of proved preventive measures such as are in operation in provincial cities and towns, must have been of more than sixty poor persons burnt alive, and of a greater number injured by fire, and of a still greater number of sufferers by preventible disease, and an excess of upwards of three hundred fires, proved on personal experience to be preventible, and of upwards of two millions of outlay on unnecessary works and multiplied establishments. And your Memorialists humbly refer to the baleful sentiments engendered amongst the poorer classes, by the further continuance of such proved preventible, noxious and fatal conditions of suffering endured by them.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

JOHN BALE & SONS, Steam Printers, 87-89, Great Titchfield Street, W.