

requisite extension at Drumchapel will cost about £100,000. It is gratifying to note that at the meeting the Lord Provost was able to intimate a list of subscriptions already received amounting to £29,500.

March 25th.

IRELAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

University Education in Ireland.

It might have been thought that the announcement in Parliament that this question would not be dealt with for some time would have lessened the interest in it in Ireland. It has not had that effect, for the most influential of the morning papers here contain daily columns of letters in reference to what is called "Mr. Bryce's scheme," although nobody knows what it may precisely prove to be. Many meetings have been held here, in England, and even in Calcutta, but the question remains unaltered because of the absence of definite knowledge. On March 22nd two demonstrations were held in Trinity College to protest against Mr. Bryce's scheme, as it is generally interpreted to be. The Provost presided over the principal meeting, which was held in the examination hall, and the resolutions were spoken to by Lord Ashbourne, Lord Iveagh, Sir Edward Carson, M.P., and many others. The *noli me tangere* policy has been fully adopted by the University of Dublin. It may succeed, or it may not, but the existing conditions have certainly worked well here for 300 years.

Motor-car Accident in Dublin.

Lady Thomson, wife of Sir William Thomson, was knocked down by a motor-car on March 23rd, just in front of their residence in Stephen's Green. The staff of St. Vincent's Hospital, situated a few doors off, were quickly in attendance. Sir William Thomson and her brother, Sir Thornley Stoker, arrived soon and it was ascertained that the patient, although badly bruised, was happily not seriously injured. The owner of the motor-car, who was also its driver, was brought before the chief magistrate on March 25th and remanded on bail pending the convalescence of Lady Thomson and her ability to appear in court.

The Belfast Health Commission.

During the past week the members of the Health Commission have spent their time in visiting mills, slums, and other places referred to in evidence. They also held one night sitting on March 20th, when some of the labour party tendered evidence as to work in the mills and as to filled up ground. The Commission, owing to the Easter holidays, will not sit again until April 8th, when it meets in the City Hall, Belfast. The Ulster Medical Society has nominated a number of members, Dr. A. Dempsey, Sir John Byers, Professor J. A. Lindsay, Dr. W. Calwell, and Dr. J. McCaw, to give evidence; and Dr. H. Stevenson, the honorary secretary, is to present a series of resolutions passed at various times by the Ulster Medical Society in regard to questions of public health.

Ulster Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital.

At the annual meeting of the friends of this charity held on March 21st it was reported that there had been 2170 extern and 340 intern patients during the past year. The debt has been reduced from £324 10s. 6d. to £230 9s. 7d. 212 operations were performed.

The Public Health of Belfast.

At a meeting of the public health committee of Belfast held on March 21st the superintendent medical officer of health presented a dismal report. The death-rate for the week ended March 16th from all causes was 22.3 and from the principal zymotics 1.4. There were 18 cases of typhoid fever, ten of scarlet fever, 11 of diphtheria, and 24 of epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis, as compared with 11, 13, three, and 31 for the previous week. The total number of cases of "spotted fever" since the outbreak of the disease was now 201, and there had been 107 deaths. The medical officer of health reported that there was great difficulty in persuading parents of children suffering from cerebro-spinal meningitis to have the patients removed to Purdysburn fever hospital for treatment, and he asked for instructions on the point, but after discussion

it was decided to leave the matter in his hands. It would have been better had he explained the objections that the parents of the patients have in regard to the hospital, but this will doubtless come out at the inquiry before the Health Commission. At Purdysburn fever hospital, which accommodates 168 patients, there are now 122 cases; of these 25 are suffering from typhoid fever, 39 from scarlet fever, 15 from diphtheria, and 39 from cerebro-spinal fever.

Cerebro spinal Fever.

Despite the fact that the disease is notifiable, that isolation is being promptly used, that it has been advised to boil the water and the milk, and that disinfectants are being given away profusely—so profusely that a deputation of chemists has complained to the public health committee of the unfairness of such lavishness—and, finally, that the weather has become much milder, cerebro-spinal meningitis continues its course apparently unchecked. Five deaths were reported on March 25th and six fresh cases were notified, and up to the present (March 26th) the total number of cases reported is 218, with 118 deaths. Both the medical profession and the public fear that the measures employed are not resulting in the stamping out of the epidemic.

March 26th.

PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Aneurysm of the Ophthalmic Artery cured by Gelatin.

M. Lancereaux and M. Paulesco communicated a paper upon the above subject at the Academy of Sciences on March 4th. They gave the patient injections of gelatinised serum of a strength of 2 per cent. and after 41 injections arrived at a complete cure. Two hours after the first injection the blood in the aneurysmal sac coagulated, with the result that the aneurysmal bruit and the beating sensation disappeared, but as the coagulum contracted after seven or eight hours the sac filled again with blood. Repeated injections gradually caused the sac to become quite full of clot, with the result that the bruit gradually got weaker, changing in quality, and finally the sac became completely and definitely obstructed.

A Possible Antidote for Strychnine.

On March 12th M. Pouchet communicated to the Academy of Medicine a letter addressed by the French consul at Batavia to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Certain planters whose cocoa plantations had suffered much from the attacks of monkeys laid strychnine for them. It was then noticed that after the monkeys had eaten the strychnine they made for certain trees which they climbed and of which they proceeded to eat the leaves. Such monkeys never showed any symptoms of poisoning and continued their games as before. M. Pouchet thought that it would be interesting to get specimens of the leaves of these trees so as to see whether they really had any antidotal properties for strychnine.

Small-pox and Vaccination at Laos.

M. Kermorgant read a communication sent in by M. Rouffiandi, a *médecin major* of colonial troops, before the Academy of Medicine on March 12th on the subject of small-pox and vaccination at Laos from 1889 to 1906. The country in question, the area of which is 267,000 square kilometres, has only 500,000 inhabitants. The villages are, therefore, very distant the one from the other. There are only five medical men throughout the whole territory and they have to go their rounds either by horse or by elephant, or occasionally by steamer. In 11 years these medical men have performed 196,830 vaccinations with 49 per cent. of success, but it must be remembered that the vaccine which comes from Saigon is often from 55 to 60 days old. These medical men have also to resist strenuously the practice of small-pox inoculation which is still widespread in the country, but they have made one great step in advance, for at Hieng-Khouang on the plateau of Tranninh, which is 1200 metres above the sea, they have started a vaccine station which since the year 1905 has been able to furnish the whole of Haut-Laos with vaccine lymph.

March 25th.