

CUS417/7.4

Prof Osler

# Romeike & Curtice, Limited.

Ludgate Circus Buildings,

Telegrams: "ROMEIKE."  
Tel. No. 4554 HOLBORN.

LONDON, E.C.

The Clipping attached is from

Meeting held July 2, 1908

Sunday Express

5-4-08

## A WINNING BATTLE

### Professor Osler on the Cure of Consumption.

#### SOME STRIKING STATE- MENTS.

Tuberculosis in its early stage is a curable disease. We can recognise it early, and it is for you of the public to say how it is to be stamped out.

This was the declaration of Professor Osler, of Oxford, made at the annual meeting of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption, held in Caxton Hall, London.

Any latter-day friend of Lucian who could sit on the edge of the moon and again take stock of the world would, said Professor Osler, be a witness of the most remarkable warfare in history—the struggle of mankind against his old-time enemy, infectious disease.

He would see that in certain directions victory was assured. The typhus army, the small-pox army, and the army of septic infection have been practically vanquished. These three great armies are out of the field. I am sorry to say, however, that he would see certain losing battles.

"We thought the world had won the great battle against the plague, that it had gradually gone never to return, but we know now that the plague has reappeared in India, and is as fierce perhaps as ever in its history.

"And I do not know, too, that we have done much against that dread foe cancer," went on the professor. "Probably, there, too, the battle has so far gone against us.

#### Wonderful Battles.

"But we are winning in some wonderful battles, and in three at any rate, victory is assured—the battles against malaria, against yellow fever, and tuberculosis—the great white plague. There can be no doubt that the winning of this battle with tuberculosis is practically in sight." (Cheers.)

Still keeping to the martial simile, Professor Osler likened the medical profession to the staff officers directing the campaign. The fighting, he insisted, must be done by the public. Greater enlightenment and

enthusiasm among the public were two of the essentials to success in this contest, and above all things a census of our tuberculous population was needed, and we could not obtain this without compulsory notification.

"We are not all agreed about this," he added, "but those who are not agreed are, I am sure, in a state of dismal ignorance."

"Who can tell us how many cases of tuberculosis there are in London, or Lancashire, to-day. We do not know, and until we do know we cannot get to work properly to stamp it out."

Mr. George Harwood, M.P., pleaded eloquently for further funds in order to extend the work of the association.

#### The Open Window.

A long address was delivered by the Countess of Aberdeen on the crusade against consumption in Ireland, where it has wrought such fearful ravages. It was undertaken by the Women's National Health Association of Ireland, which was formed, said the countess, in the belief that in matters of public health and of health in the home permanent work could not be accomplished unless they had the women with them.

We could look forward, she said, to consumption being stamped out within fifty years if all classes would lend a hand and work with perseverance and determination towards its eradication.

The itinerant tuberculosis exhibition which had been touring the country had done a splendid work.

The lessons of that exhibition had been scattered far and wide. Open windows were now a cult among the people in some houses, half the windows had been knocked out in order that recalcitrant members of the household should not be able to shut them—(laughter)—and owners of property had been besieged with requests that windows should be altered so that they might be opened.

In one place the poor in a certain district combined to give her a welcome by whitewashing their houses inside and out. (Laughter.)

A boy who was called to account for knocking down a friend pleaded "Please, sir, he was spitting." (Laughter.)

among the public were two of