

A PROBLEM OF DISEASE.

DR. OSLER ON POVERTY AND CONSUMPTION.

Professor Osler attended a garden party given by Dr. Esther Carling at Kingwood, near Reading, on Saturday, and afterwards spoke on the progress and treatment of consumption at a meeting held under the presidency of the Hon. F. W. D. Smith, M.P., in connexion with the Maitland Cottage Sanatorium Development scheme. Dr. Osler said that there were to-day in England and Wales half a million persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The all-important thing was the problem of the poor consumptive. The general hospitals could very well take care of a certain number of early cases, and under certain conditions the poor might be successfully treated at home in country districts. There was no reason why in the small towns the home treatment should not be carried out, while in the villages and among the farming class throughout the country the home treatment of the disease might be conducted much more extensively in the future. With regard to treating the disease in sanatoria, the difficulty was the impossibility to get all of their poor consumptives satisfactorily housed in sanatoria as at present constructed. All who had seen the simple, yet most satisfactory, arrangements of the Maitland Sanatorium could not help feeling that the tuberculosis problem in regard to the poor was solved under such conditions.