

be sufficient to meet the present difficulties. The idea of admitting a certain number of fellows without the payment of entrance fees has not been accepted, on the ground that 350 would have to be elected to bring in the same sum as 100 who paid the entrance fee. So this apparently simple inducement to get new members is to be put aside. Whether they continue to join at all with the five guineas entrance and two guineas annual subscription remains to be seen. It is clear, however, that the same sum will give more privileges in most horticultural societies. It has been suggested that the transactions of the society should be brought out in a more pretentious form, and the council certainly seems wise in rejecting this proposal at present, which is only likely to increase the expenses of the society without adequate compensation. Whether the plan of admitting nurserymen to the gardens and giving them space for growing the plants they offer for sale is the best way of insuring an improvement in the gardens may be open to question, but there is much to be said for the plan; and the plots need not occupy all the available space: anyhow this, too, is rejected. But no alternative alteration is contemplated by the council, who appeal to the opinion of four trustworthy experts, who have reported on the condition of the gardens. From the point of view of good gardeners they have no fault to find; the upkeep of both the open ground and the greenhouses reflects credit on the staff.

But what strikes the outsider is that in this age of progress in horticulture, when people are constantly getting new ideas and studying fresh combinations; there are no opportunities to learn at the botanic gardens. There is nothing to stimulate, nothing to inspire. The gardens are not better than the park outside; so the inducements to become a fellow are few, although the club-room and library are a valuable addition. Even at the shows many people feel there will not be so much that is novel, and the keenest horticulturists do not go, and the nurserymen, who admit that they are given every facility, and that every consideration is shown them, and they have more

room for display, yet take far fewer orders in three days there than they do in one elsewhere. The fact is, the gardens, although charming in many ways, are not up to date, and complacent satisfaction in their present fitness will not mend matters.

It is strange also that lectures should not have been well attended. Those given on botanical subjects at the Chelsea Physic Garden, which is not in a much more central position, had an average attendance of seventy, which shows there is room for work in this direction.

It will be a great loss to science if this important society, once the leading one, forfeits its high position by not pursuing a more forward policy at this critical moment in its history.

THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SOCIOLOGY.

THE Institut International de Sociologie was organized in 1893, with headquarters in Paris, where its congresses have hitherto been held. Its first president was Lord Avebury, the present president of the Sociological Society. From the beginning, its international character has been maintained. Its membership has included Professors Kovalevsky and Novicow for Russia; Brentano, Bücher, Conrad, Schmoller, Schaeffle, Simmel and Wagner for Germany; Gumpłowicz and Menger for Austria; Baldwin, Giddings, Small and Ward for America; and, besides Lord Avebury, Professors Foxwell, Nicholson, Tylor, Sidgwick and Mr. Frederic Harrison for Great Britain.

The present congress came to London through the joint invitation of the Sociological Society and the University of London. All of the sessions were held in the Jehanghir Hall of the University Building, South Kensington.

After the closing meeting, excursions to Oxford and Cambridge took place, which, it was hoped, could be arranged as motor car excursions. A visit to Edinburgh and Glasgow was planned to take place some time during the week following the congress.

The provisional program was as follows:

Tuesday, July 3, at 4 P.M.—General opening meeting. Addresses by the president of the institute, the president of the Sociological Society, and a representative of the University of London. Report of the secretary-general.

8:30 P.M.—Conversazione given by the University of London.

Wednesday, July 4, at 10:30 A.M.—‘Caractères généraux des luttes sociales’: M. J. Novicow, Professor Lester Ward, Professor Ludwig Gumplowicz, Dr. Raoul de la Grasserie, M. S. Halpérine.

3:30 P.M.—Garden party given by Lord Avebury.

Thursday, July 5, at 10:30 A.M.—Suite du débat.—‘Les luttes sociales d’après Herbert Spencer’: Professor Ludwig Stein. ‘La guerre est-elle un facteur nécessaire?’: Professor A. D. Xénopol.

2:30 P.M.—‘Luttes sociales dérivées des problèmes industriels en Angleterre’: M. Frederic Harrison. ‘La lutte pour le travail, et les in-employés’: Professor Loch. ‘Etude comparée des luttes sociales contemporaines dans les principaux pays occidentaux, y compris l’Amérique du Nord’: Dr. Emil Reich.

8 P.M.—Banquet given by the Sociological Society.

Friday, July 6, at 10:30 A.M.—‘La sociologie des partis politiques’: Professor Lester Ward. ‘L’évolution politique de l’Italie’: Senator Professor G. Arcoleo. ‘La foule et les meneurs’: M. K. J. Kochanowski. ‘Les luttes intermentales’: M. Emile Frey.

2:30 P.M.—Closing meeting.

RESULTS OF THE GERMAN CENSUS.

THE results of the German census, which was taken on December 1, last, represent the total population of the home empire as 60,605,183 persons, an increase of over 47 per cent. since 1871, and of 7.52 per cent. since the census of 1900. A study of the distribution of the increase among the various parts of the empire shows that Prussia, with nearly two thirds (37,278,820) of the total population, has grown at a greater rate than the rest of Germany, the increase in the number of its inhabitants during the past five years being 8.14 per cent. Growth has been most rapid in the three western provinces in the valley of the middle Rhine—Westphalia (13.50 per cent.), Rhineland (11.74 per cent.), and Hesse-Nassau

(9.07 per cent.)—which, with an area of less than one fifth of that of Prussia, contains nearly one third (12,124,052) of its population. In the county (Regierungs-Bezirke) of Potsdam there has been an exceptionally rapid increase in the population the number of inhabitants being returned as 2,327,853, or 20.66 per cent. more than in 1900. The city of Berlin, the population of which is enumerated separately, had last December 2,040,222 inhabitants, an increase of 8.01 per cent. In no province or county of Prussia was there a decline in the population during the intercensal period, but the growth in the eastern provinces, occupying the sandy North German plain, was below both the average for Prussia and the average for the German Empire. In the province of East Prussia the rate of increase was only 1.46 per cent. (in the previous five years, however, a decline had been registered); in the province of West Prussia it was 5.01 per cent., in the county of Frankfurt (Brandenburg) 1.93 per cent., in the province of Pomerania 3.02 per cent., and in Posen, Silesia, and Prussian Saxony between 5 and 6 per cent. In Hanover the rate of increase rose again to 6.52 per cent., while in German Jutland (Schleswig-Holstein) it exceeded the average, being 8.38 per cent. Outside of Prussia the population of the two great southern kingdoms, Bavaria and Württemberg, comprising much of the southwestern highlands as well as the alpine foreland of Germany, rose by 5.45 and 6.03 per cent., respectively, and amounted last December to 8,813,154, while the already densely populated kingdom of Saxony, with 4,502,350 inhabitants, had increased its population by 7.14 per cent. In the Grand Duchy of Baden (2,009,320 inhabitants), bordering the right bank of the upper Rhine, the rate of increase was precisely that of the German Empire—7.52 per cent., while in Hesse and Oldenburg it reached 8.14 and 9.77 per cent., respectively, furnishing another instance of the rapidity with which the population is increasing in western and north-western Germany. Among the small states bunched together in the highlands of Central Germany, the rate of increase was compara-