

to give far more attention than heretofore to their courses in anaesthesia. He alluded to the fact that the Royal Society of Medicine whose Official Representative he was, had recognized anaesthesia as a section and he expressed the hope that the American Medical Association would presently take similar steps.

Dr. Boyle was accompanied by his charming wife and during their visit they were house guests of friends and anaesthetists in New York City, Long Island, Rochester, Toronto and Montreal.

### Fears For Future of Great Britain

"It has been said that it is at the heart that empires rot, and while I hate to admit it, it seems to me that some of the things which I have seen in England are very like the phenomenon of rot. So I hope to God you will sympathize with us, for it is in Canada that there lies the hope of the British Empire." This was the startling declaration made by Dr. C. W. Saleeby, of London, Eng., before the general meeting of all association of the Public Health Convention during an address on eugenics and public health, and while he went on to point out that there are racial poisons which have gained a grip and which he feared are eating away the virility of the English race, he had great hopes that many of them would be overcome in Canada, and that, though the worst might happen to the Mother Country in the way of physical decadence, the people of Canada would more than make up

for that falling off. Dr. Saleeby recognized that his declaration was a surprising one. He termed it momentous, and he made a strong appeal that the citizens of the Dominion should give greater attention to the health of future generations than is being done in England.

Dr. Saleeby hesitated to attribute these evidences of racial poison to any definite features, though he believed alcohol, venereal disease and chronic militarism might be the outward evidences.

"History has shown us," he went on, "that new nations, with strong hearts and clean morals, rise up and do great things, even to the defeat of their enemies, and then, when they become surfeited with power, they drift into evil living, and in the end they go down into dust. The story of Asia and Europe is full of that. History, with all its volumes, has but one page. It is the story of the ascent and collapse of nations, with them all going down into the night of time.

France, I think, is going that way. Britain is headed in the same way, and the explanation of these collapses seems to be that something in the quality of the people declines. For we are all convinced that the Romans, who lost the Roman Empire were not the class of Romans who made it. So when we have the knowledge that these racial poisons exist, we have at the same time the warning that they must be fought if this age is not to drift into ruin, which is so easy to achieve. There are so many causes for racial ruin. It may be the life of leisure