

its use to prevent recurrence following operation for malignancy and the results are said to be enough "to justify the routine adoption of post-operative irradiation."

The report of the Chemico-Physical Laboratory connected with the Institute is appended, and gives an interesting insight into the methods of preparation of the apparatus.

Altogether the report shows that the establishment of such an institution was justified, for it is doing good work and is being conducted on the proper lines. It is a satisfaction, too, to have the work done by observers on this side of the Atlantic confirmed in such a striking fashion.

FIGHTING THE WHITE PLAGUE.

Twenty years ago the United States spent nothing on combatting the white plague. In 1912 the sum devoted to this humanitarian cause was \$19,000,000, or \$4,500,000 more than in 1911. Though Germany operates an extensive sanitarium system in connection with its workmen's insurance scheme, and under the British Insurance Act sanitarium benefits are to be provided for the workers, in addition to the many other tuberculosis institutions, the United States has attained the distinction of contributing a larger sum annually for fighting this dread disease than any other nation in the world.

To have so roused public opinion on the vital nature of the tuberculosis problem that nearly a score of millions of dollars is forthcoming in one year is a great triumph for the educational forces at work. For instance, Prof. Irving Fisher, of Yale, recently put the estimated loss to the country from tuberculosis at \$1,250,000,000 a year. It may be remarked here that the estimated loss to Canada is \$72,000,000 yearly. Statistics gleaned from American census reports show that in the registration area during the last decennial period the tuberculosis death rate was reduced 18.7 per cent. The yearly average of deaths decreased in number from 1,969 in each million of population to 1,603 per million. At the same time the general death rate from all diseases declined only 9.7 per cent. That means that the mortality from tuberculosis has been reduced in almost twice the ratio of that from all causes, and that about 27,000 lives are being saved each year that ten years ago would have been lost.

The United States tuberculosis death rate is yet higher than that of Britain and Germany, though below that of other European countries. In England it is 121 per 100,000 of population. The German rate is now estimated at 160. Ontario has a rate of 92, with great promise of further reduction on account of the new medical health service.