

and drowsiness gradually lapses into coma, the patient passing away in a state of complete insensibility. In chronic cases the symptoms are slower in development, but usually eventuate in a like fatal issue.

Sometimes preliminary symptoms of an exceedingly slight character might be in progress for years, and in fact so feebly defined as to be almost sublatent, until very gradually the symptoms deepened in intensity, when the gait, speech, and food supply, entirely changed from the normal condition, are gradually followed by profound coma and death. It is now generally accepted that this disease is caused by the entrance into the blood of a minute protozoal parasite—the trypanosoma Gambiense, first described by Dr. Dutton, who, while searching out this disease, lost his life on the West Coast of Africa. In South Africa there is a disease known among cattle and other domestic animals, caused by the trypanosoma Brucei, and conveyed by and communicated from sick to healthy animals, by a biting fly, the *Glossina morsitans*. The idea followed that sleeping sickness might be produced in a like manner from a biting fly. "Large collections of these biting flies were made with the remarkable result that the distribution of sleeping sickness and of a biting fly, the *Glossina palpalis*, corresponded exactly with each other." Col. David Bruce, R.A.M.C., F.R.S., addressed the meeting of the British Association on this subject during the recent meeting in South Africa, and brought to light many interesting facts, in this line of research which cannot fail to be of great service.

Sleeping sickness is not contagious, and, in fact, is only considered infectious in a limited sense. The disease is generally believed to be fatal, but in a few cases recoveries are vouched for.

Dr. Todd, of McGill University, recently returned from West Africa, having extended his observations over 2,000 miles of the Free State, from the mouth of the Congo. He favors the idea that nearly all general glandular enlargements, without evident cause, such as syphilis or tuberculosis, are cases of trypanosomiasis. The palpation of these enlarged glands in the posterior triangle of the neck is considered sufficient evidence of the disease. The juice of enlarged glands removed by the hypodermic needle is unailing, as to the production of trypanosomes, even when not found in the blood. Dr. Todd considers the sleepiness rather as a terminal sign and not necessarily an unailing symptom of the disease.

Information has just been received (*British Medical Journal*, May 5th, 1906) that one of the commissioners sent out to Uganda, in 1904, by the Royal Society of England, to investigate the sleeping sickness, has been infected with the parasites believed to produce the disease. Two officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Lieut. Gray and Lieut. Forbes Tulloch, were the commission. Last week an official telegram