

able the physician to diagnose cancer with certainty in any person whose blood shows these bodies."

"Has the medical world passed any judgment on your discovery?" was asked.

"I have not yet laid all my results before my colleagues," he answered, "but so far the reception has been most encouraging. I arranged with Professor Matruchot, of the Sorbonne, for a test of my re-agent, which decides the presence of cancer in the blood.

"Eight test tubes—five containing blood from cancerous persons and three that of normal persons—were prepared at the School of Medicine in Paris by Dr. Keating Hart, the well-known specialist.

"The tubes were numbered and accompanied by a sealed envelope describing their contents, and were placed in Professor Matruchot's hands. I then proceeded to an examination before my colleagues and was able to recognize every case by the re-agent, whether the blood was from a cancerous person or not.

"I made a second demonstration at the School of Medicine, and obtained similar results. Professor Matruchot was quite enthusiastic about the work.

"One of the great things which I expect to accomplish is to relieve a sufferer from the terrible uncertainty which now weighs on him. If a man has a tumor the re-agent will show positively whether it is a cancer or not.

"If he has the disease then will come the curative treatment. The tumor will first be removed and a few days after the operation the serum will be injected. Even after the germs have disappeared injections will be given at long intervals as a precaution.

"I do not expect to cure persons whose blood is saturated with the germs, but when it is not too badly infected I feel confident of the efficacy of the serum."

Indian Sanitation.

Measures for the improvement and strengthening of the sanitary services in India are about to be effected. They include further decentralization of control, and a widening of the field of recruitment by throwing open the higher posts to fully qualified Indians of proved aptitude.

The local governments are to be empowered to select their own sanitary commissioners from officers serving in provincial sanitary departments, under certain limitations as to previous sanction. The existing number of deputy sanitary commissioners is inadequate in more than one province, the area served by one of these officers in Madras being more than 129,000 square miles with a population of thirty-six and a half millions. It has been decided to create eight additional appointments of this class. The deputy sanitary commissionerships will no longer be reserved for officers of the Indian Medical Service, and Indians possessing the necessary qualifications will be eligible. The candidate must hold a British diploma in public health and be a properly qualified medical practitioner.

A scheme has also been sanctioned for the appointment of health officers of the first class for the larger municipalities and of the second class for the smaller towns, to supplement the work of the district civil surgeons, who, as a rule, are the only health officers of the towns of their respective districts. A health officer of the first class must have a registerable medical qualification and a British diploma in public health. It is hoped that it may be possible to remove the second restriction so soon as arrangements can be made in India which will enable Indians trained there to become health officers of the first class.

Notes of Empire and World Abroad.

The British Hospitals Association held its annual conference in Birmingham on September 19 and 20. Between 150 and 200 delegates were in attendance. A reception was held at the Council House by the Lord Mayor on the opening day, and visits were paid by the delegates to several hospitals in Birmingham and the district. Papers were read by Sir William Collins and Mr. J. Danvers Power, by Mr. E. S. Kemp on "The Training of Almoners," by Dr. Nathan Raw on "The Insurance Act," and by Dr. Josiah Oldfield on "The Site and Size of a Hospital in Relation to its Efficiency." Mr. Howard Collins, the house governor of the Birmingham General Hospital, had charge of the arrangements.