

CANCER AND IRRITATION.

Dr. Bashford of the Imperial Cancer Research work gives the following general statements as part of the conclusions arrived at:

1. The use of very hot rice in China.
2. The use of the Kangri fire box in Kashmir.
3. The chewing of betel nut in the East.
4. The use of the short clay pipe, which becomes hot and sticks to the lip.
5. Alcoholic excesses act as an irritant, and are causes of the disease.
6. Strong spices, such as curries, etc., have found to act as excitant of cancer.
7. Those who work among soot, such as the chimney sweep, or the maid who cleans the fire-place. This is due to the aniline matter in the soot. Coal dust will not cause any harm.
8. Workers in places where aniline colors are produced are liable to suffer.
9. Those who use x-ray machines are specially liable to the disease.

THE BIRTH RATE.

In France the birth rate is now about on a par with the death rate. In other words, that country is increasing in population very slowly.

The increase in Germany is much more rapid, but even there is beginning to show the effects of the strenuous life and the greater cost of living, as a factor in preventing marriages and keeping down the number of children.

The conditions in Britain are quite special. For a considerable number of years the owners of land have made it more and more difficult to live in the country. Young men and women either go abroad, or go to the cities. This tends to reduce wages and lessen the amount of work for each. They either remain single or live as far as possible childless lives. During the past ten years, Britain increased at the rate of 9 per cent. The previous 10 years at the rate of 12 per cent.

In rheumatism and rheumatic affections acetosal is a favorite prescription. 5 to 15 gr. every four hours will check the pain and fever in a most satisfactory manner, the temperature in almost every case becoming normal within a few days. The dose should be repeated thrice daily for a week, then 5 or 10 grains per day for the following three weeks.