

Lieutenant-Governor Dunsmuir has offered to give \$10,000 to a sanatorium for consumptives in British Columbia, provided the committees now working are successful in raising \$50,000 for the building and equipment. The announcement was made at a meeting in the interest of the sanatorium, addressed by Rev. Dr. Moore, Prof. Woodhead and Dr. Ewart of St. Joseph's Hospital, London.

Dr. Herman quotes authorities to prove that death is far from being the terrible ordeal it is supposed to be. Dr. William Osler found that out of 500 cases he had observed only 90 complained of pain or even discomfort, the great majority giving absolutely no sign whatever. Says Dr. T. Lauder Brunton, a famous English observer: "It is a merciful provision of nature that almost every individual passes out of this world in a condition of anaesthesia."

An important section of the British Medical Association has discussed the question of water pollution by sewage, and the paper by Dr. H. D. Holton, Secretary of the Vermont State Board of Health, contained many strong statements as to the evils and dangers resulting from the discharge of sewage into rivers, streams, and other bodies of water. The trend of the papers and discussion showed a firm conviction in favor of the filtration of sewage to prevent the pollution of water, and also the filtration of water to insure purity for domestic uses. The contention that sewage is not destroyed but merely diluted by water has an important bearing on all sewage and water problems, and seems to be well sustained by the observations and experiments of Dr. F. A. Starkey, extending over many years, on the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers. If sewage is merely diluted, and the injurious bacteria which it carries still live, there is always a danger attending the emptying of sewers into water from which a city's supply is taken.

ECTHOL.

Dr. W. H. Barnett, of Huffins, Texas, in the *Alkaloidal Clinic* for November, 1904, says:—

I am satisfied that ecthol, a combination of echinacea and thuja, will prevent the sting of bees from hurting him. Let him take dram doses every hour for three hours before he commences to work with them. The reason for the faith that is in me is this: They used to hurt me. Last summer I was taking it for a skin disease, and while under its influence I was stung by a wasp on the face and neck. When stung I started to the house to get something to stop the pain and swelling that I expected to suffer with, but instead of pain and swelling, as heretofore when stung, there was no more of either than a mosquito or gnat would have caused.