

in less than an hour; in sunlight it can exist but a few minutes. Wood considers that the mucus of sputum is destructive to the organism. His conclusions are that in the care of pneumonia patients, illumination and ventilation are of great use, and dry sweeping or dusting is to be avoided; articles which cannot be damped ought to be removed. The organisms coming from the patient by sweeping, coughing, or speaking are soon killed in suspension, especially in a sunlit room.

Romer some time ago (v. Graefc's Arch. f. Oph., No. 54, and elsewhere), gave the result of his work on *ulcus corneae serpens* by direct injection of rabbit-pneumococcus-serum; his researches on animals of different kinds were very convincing.

Axenfeld (Munich. Med. Woch., N. 33) went farther, in ascribing to the serum a prophylactic value in the operations in the eye upon unclean territory or upon tissues modified by the existence of a general disease such as diabetes.

Rymowitsch (Russ. Wratsch, No. 33) found in a large series of cases of conjunctivitis (472 cases) during late summer, 18 per cent. caused by pneumococcus; these were especially found in the young, and were often contagious.

Davis and Brown (Lancet, Oct. 8, '04) describe a case of pneumonia with empyema, suppurative anthritis of the knee, and septic peritonitis which recovered—thoracotomy, incision of the knee and laparotomy were performed. In ten and a half years in St. Bartholomew's, 39 cases of multiple localisation of *Pneumococcus* had died.

An afebrile case of pneumonia is also reported.

REPORTS ON THE INVESTIGATION OF THE IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND.

No. 2, Parts I. and II., 1905. DR. E. F. BASHFORD, General Superintendent of Research.

Part I. deals with the further statistical investigation of cancer, the terms being used to include all forms of malignant new growth. The conclusion is reached that we can not yet say with certainty that cancer is increasing, in spite of the apparently increasing numbers of deaths attributed to cancer. Nothing in the statistics obtained points to an increase in the death rate from cancer. Sarcoma is found to increase in frequency as life advances exactly parallel to the manner in which carcinoma does; it has generally been supposed that sarcoma is essentially a disease of those of younger age than is carcinoma, but if this be disproved, as seems likely, we shall be less inclined to consider sarcoma and carcinoma as two fundamentally different growths.

The authors show the fallacies in all the reports that have been hither-