

Great Success Attends Work of Eye Surgeon.

Col. Henry Smith, the marvel eye surgeon from India, amazed Toronto medical men here six weeks ago by the rapidity and success with which he removed cataracts from the eyes of several scores of blind and vision-impaired patients.

The Lancet is informed by a Toronto specialist that out of 41 operations performed at Grace Hospital, 12 at the Toronto General Hospital and four private cases only one case has not shown improvement. In this single case out of a total of 57 cases, every one of them more than ordinarily delicate the patient quickly developed a hemorrhage and it is feared little hope may be entertained for improvement. In the 56 other cases, however, considering the comparatively brief period since the operations were performed, the improvement has been general and quite marked. In the case presented to Col. Smith where both eyes were afflicted only one was operated upon.

With the exception of a few children all the operations were performed upon elderly persons ranging in age from 60 years and up. The latter were given only a local anaesthetic and, both during the operation and after, suffered no pain. The children operated upon were all given general anaesthetic.

An Exceptional Blood-Coagulant

A rather ingenious improvement in the composition of blood-coagulants is to be found in Hemostatic Serum. This serum contains not only prothrombin and thrombokinase, two ferments essential

to normal clotting, but also a third substance, antiantithrombin, which neutralizes the antithrombin of the blood.

Antiantithrombin is derived from the blood of animals by a process similar to that of producing antitoxin by the injection of toxin. The rationale of the inclusion of this substance in the formula of Hemastatic Serum is that coagulation may result from an actual or relative excess of antithrombin as well as from a deficiency in prothrombin or thrombokinase.

Hemostatic Serum seems to provide for all the etiologic factors that may be at the bottom of slow coagulation. In actual practice it performs the promise that its formula implies. The dose is 2 cc, subcutaneously or intravenously, repeated every six hours if necessary. In cases of hemophilia, the manufacturers advise larger doses—5 cc intravenously. In cases in which the bleeding point is accessible, Hemostatic Serum may be applied topically with gratifying results.

In the Comedy Relief section of the May issue of "The Bloodless Phlebotomist" a delightful satire entitled "Too Late Now" by James Montague, gives a mirthful view of gland transplantation vs euthanasia at sixty. This is only one of several worth while features of this publication. J. Petrie Hoyle, M.D., the first American physician to serve in Flanders during the World War contributes a very interesting article on "Treatment of Inflammation of the Fallopian Tubes," by Dr. J. Sidney Eason, Coldwater, is well worth reading.