

of the New York City Health Department, and to describe some of the procedures, followed in the sanitary surveillance of infectious diseases, which have been introduced by it.

I feel a great diffidence in presenting an address on such a subject before the British Medical Association, representing, as it does, the medical profession, and, to a great extent, the sanitarians of a country which has been so long and justly regarded as the birth-place and home of sanitary science. It has been the custom of sanitarians of all nations to look to England for guidance and direction in matters connected with the public health, and the low mortality statistics, especially from zymotic diseases, in England testify in no uncertain language to the value of English sanitary methods and the efficiency of their execution. When we remember that never before in the world's history have there been 30,000,000 people living within 50,000 square miles, as is the case in England, and that more than 20,000,000 of this population reside in towns, often crowded, we appreciate more fully the remarkable healthfulness of the England of to-day and the extraordinary success of English sanitation, as of English methods in all the practical affairs of life.

The fact should be strongly emphasized that the advances in sanitation in Great Britain, as shown by the mortality tables for nearly half a century, have preceded those in every other country, and I doubt not that the influence of the British Medical Association has been no small factor in contributing to the high standard of the public health. In view of these considerations, it is natural that a foreigner should hesitate to address this Association on questions connected with public medicine.

I must further ask your indulgence in having devoted the greater part of this address to the study and description of procedures and methods, rather than, as is generally the custom, to the consideration of some one of the broader questions in public medicine. This course has been adopted because, in my judgment, such a discussion will be of greater value and interest than the consideration of any general topic, which could furnish little specific information as to the conditions and methods of sanitary work in the United States.

It seems necessary, in order that you may have an intelligent conception of the conditions under which the sanitary work in the United States is carried on, that I should first point out, in a general way, how these differ from the conditions under which the sanitary authorities work in Great Britain. It should be noted particularly