

I must stop to refer briefly to certain dark shadows in the picture of tropical medicine. Within ten years the investigations in Africa have shown the wide prevalence of formidable diseases of animal and man, unknown or previously but imperfectly known. The knowledge of the group of diseases caused by the trypanosomes has added terror to tropical life. The dreaded sleeping sickness which now extends over some million of square miles is one of the serious problems of life in Africa. A vigorous plan of campaign has been instituted, and already in Uganda, as the Governor's report shows, there is a steady diminution, and no whites have been attacked since 1906. The public will find in Boyce's book the whole story of the relation of tropical diseases to flies and insects, and this most timely contribution should help to call attention to the medical problems of the tropics and the supreme interest to the nation of these new maladies. I wish I had time to speak of the organized campaign in various parts of the world against the ravages of the ankylostoma. Here again it has been a thorough scientific study of the life history of the parasite by Looss and by Stiles that has enabled us to frame curative and preventive measures. The work of Ashford and his colleague in Porto Rico illustrates how effective these measures may be. It is gratifying to note that Mr. John D. Rockefeller has given £200,000 to organize a campaign against the disease in the Southern States. But there is a dark spot in our story.

#### THE RECRUDESCENCE OF PLAGUE.

Certain epidemic diseases are very much like the fabled 'Hydra', from which so soon as one head was cut off another sprang up to take its place, or, what is just as bad, grew again. Even the eternal watchfulness which safety demands is not of any avail against the workings of Nature when we do not understand her laws, and when we are face to face with certain