

has been constantly found at hand.

As the extermination of the tsetse fly appears a hopeless task, it has been decided to remove the surviving population out of its reach. The healthy are, therefore, being located on fly-free areas, and the 20,000 sick are also placed in uninfected districts in concentration camps capable of accommodating 1,000 at a time, where they receive such medical treatment as gives promise of successful results. It is further hoped by completely removing from the tsetse fly the possibility of renewing its infection it may become innocuous.

Mr. Hesketh Bell goes on to say that though the Lords of the Imperial Treasury upon whom the administration of Uganda has still to depend to a certain extent have authorised the expenditure of a considerable sum on the measures now proposed, everything has to be done on the most economical scale. The inmates of the camps who have not friends and relations to supplement the fare provided get nothing but a modicum of bananas and beans. Their intense craving for meat will have to go unsatisfied, and their remaining days will have few alleviations. Unless a cure be soon discovered, Mr. Bell points out that the unhappy inmates of the sleeping sickness camps will not long remain a charge upon the Government. A taste of beef or mutton now and then would be an intense joy to these poor creatures, and anyone who had seen the intense delight that transfigured the faces of the inmates at Kissubi at the prospect of meat would think a few shillings well spent in that direction. Mr. Hesketh Bell appeals for the funds to enable him to provide this. Cheques or postal orders, addressed to the Governor of Uganda, Government House, Uganda, would be gratefully acknowledged.

#### GERMS KILLED BY COLOURS.

According to a contemporary eminent French scientist is showing that it is possible to rid ourselves of germs by painting the walls with particular colours. The experiments made by Professor Deycke proved that the disease germ applied to a wall painted with "amphoboline" lost its poisonous properties. Drs. Le Bosco and Lydia Rabinovitch found that the tuberculosis germ disappeared under the influence of enamelling colours, neither the consumption, cholera, nor diphtheria germ being found. The typhoid germs disappeared on the fourth day. Ultramarine blue seems to destroy the germs the most rapidly, within 24 hours. The results on the grey paint were almost negative, while it took the maroon paint almost 14 days to kill the germ.

## Wound Infection.

By A. KNYVETT GORDON, M.B., Cantab.  
*Lecturer on Infectious Diseases in the  
University of Manchester.*

### A LECTURE DELIVERED TO SECOND-YEAR NURSES AT MONSALL HOSPITAL.

In the preceding lectures I have told you something about the more common organisms that may produce disease, and have also given you an outline of the methods which are, or may be, adopted by the body to rid itself of them and their products. To-day I am going to speak more particularly about what happens when a wound "goes wrong" as we say, and will try to show you why it does so, and how you, as nurses, are concerned in the matter.

There are, in the first place, two kinds of wound, septic and aseptic, the difference being that a septic wound contains micro-organisms, while the aseptic wound does not. In practice, the aseptic wound heals up quickly, and without giving rise to any disturbance of the system, while the septic wound does not close, but, as we say, "breaks down" and discharges "matter," this being usually accompanied by some amount of constitutional ill health, which may vary from a slight degree of feverishness to death from blood poisoning.

Now, one of the first things that you are told when you begin your work in this hospital is that you must be aseptic in everything that you do for a patient, and you probably wonder why there are such a lot of "little" things that you must not do. It is doubtless at first very difficult to see why there should be all this fuss and collections of rules, and you will not, I think, find the work interesting until you understand why you must take all these precautions. When you do understand you will, or ought to, cease to consider any work in the wards as "menial."

I am not going to bother you now with lists of the germs that may do harm when they get into a wound, but the commonest, in our work at all events, are those belonging to a family called streptococci, which is simply Greek for chains of berries. You will be able to see them under the first microscope after the lecture, and you will realise that the name is a fairly good one. Those organisms, incidentally, were taken from a case of puerperal fever, which is simply one variety of wound infection, the wound being in or near the uterus after childbirth.

I am now going to show you that these and other organisms may be found in large num-

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