

## Medical Matters.

### TROPICAL DISEASES RESEARCH.



A most interesting report by the Advisory Committee for the Tropical Diseases Research Fund has been issued in the form of a Blue Book. The revenue for last year derived from contributions from the Imperial Government, the Government of India, the Rhodes Trustees, and the Colonial Governments amounted to just over £3,000. Grants were made of £1,083 to the London School of Tropical Medicine, £500 to the Liverpool School, employed in the payment of a lecturer in economic entomology and parasitology, £750 to the University of London, and £100 to Cambridge University. Further grants have been applied for by the London and Liverpool Schools, and the Committee have decided to make the former an extra grant of £1,000 for the establishment of a post of entomology. The grant is subject to the condition that the entomologist shall make a collection of noxious insects of the Colonies—a separate collection for each Colony—and that such collections shall be available for reference by Colonial officials or doctors. An extra grant of £500 is also to be allotted to the Liverpool School for work in relation to sleeping sickness.

In connection with this disease, the Committee have been asked for advice by Lord Elgin, Secretary of State for the Colonies in regard to the present conditions of sleeping sickness in Uganda. The measures they suggest for adoption include: (1) The segregation of all persons known to be infected with trypanosomes in camps which should be situated in places free from *Glossina*; (2) the removal of the apparently healthy from fly-infested areas to places where it is believed that no fly exists; and (3) the clearing of all such bush as would afford shelter for the fly at all fords, ferries, landing places, and sources of water supplies, for a limited area, such cleared areas to be kept free of bush and cultivated with low-growing crops which could not afford suitable shelter for the fly. These recommendations have been approved by Lord Elgin, and steps are now being taken to carry them into effect. To aid the encouragement and systemisation of research work a despatch has also been sent to the Governors of those Colonies in which laboratories exist, suggesting the adoption of certain methods for preserving the results attained by research in those laboratories, and rendering them accessible to the successive officers in charge.

## The Special Nursing of the Ear and Nose.

NURSING LECTURES DELIVERED AT THE ROYAL EAR HOSPITAL.

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### LECTURE VIII.

#### OPERATIONS ON THE NOSE AND NASOPHARYNX.

The preparation of patients for operations upon the nose and post-nasal space needs but few remarks. Their general preparation does not differ from that for other surgical operations, with the principles of which the nurse is already acquainted.

I shall divide these operations into three groups: (1) Those upon the nasal cavities; (2) those upon the accessory sinuses; and (3) those upon the post-nasal space.

1. Operations upon the nasal chambers are done either upon the septum or upon the turbinal bodies, or for the removal of new growths and foreign bodies. These are nearly always performed *via* the natural passages, but it is at times necessary to considerably extend the operation, in order to obtain more space for the surgeon's manipulations.

Among the minor procedures are the application of the galvano-cautery, the removal of the anterior or posterior ends of the inferior turbinates, and the removal of the anterior end of the middle turbinate. A few words as to the preparation of the galvano-cautery and the threading of snares will not, therefore, be amiss. Both these duties require care, and the surgeon will be saved much trouble if they are carried out properly. In using the galvano-cautery, the current employed is usually from the main, through a transformer. The points used are of platinum, which is quickly heated by the electric current, and these are fitted into a handle containing an arrangement by which the current can be made or broken at will. The best and most used handle is Schech's universal handle.

(Mr. Yearsley here showed the method in which the apparatus should be prepared, and demonstrated its use.)

When asked to prepare the galvano-cautery, the nurse should inquire as to the kind of point the surgeon wishes fitted to the handle, and she should test the arrangement before handing it to him. The heat used should be sufficient to make the point a cherry-red colour. After use, the point is cleaned by switching on the current, and burning away any remnants of tissue which may be attached to the point.

Snares should always be fitted with their

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