

of research. It was largely a local problem. In Jugoslavia, for instance, there were two distinct malaria problems—one in Dalmatia, where malaria was caused by the fact that there was not sufficient water, and one in Macedonia, where there was too much. Scientific surveys were at present being undertaken by four or five countries, but they were working in watertight compartments; Italy, for example, did not know what Jugoslavia was doing (and the work done in Jugoslavia during the last two years was astounding), and again in the Ukraine and in Russia there was no knowledge of what was being done elsewhere. Here it was the obvious duty of the International Health Organization to come in.

The Executive Committee had also decided to initiate the standardization of therapeutic and prophylactic serums and biological products, and it was hoped that some steps towards correlation would be made this year. It was not desired, nor was it possible, to create a medical research institute of the League of Nations, but the Committee was inviting the co-operation of research institutes throughout the world, and this had been already secured in the case of ten or twelve. It was found to be rather difficult to get serologists to agree to a common method of work, but the President of the Committee, Dr. Madsen of Copenhagen, had invited them to his own institute, with a clear intimation that they would be expected to extend their stay until they reached an agreement. Some of those responsible for carrying out the tests had been invited also. After fourteen days of continuous laboratory work at Copenhagen a definite result was obtained, and a real agreement was now in sight.

The exchange of visits among medical officers of different countries under the auspices of the Health Section was not primarily for the purpose of enabling the visitors to obtain information, although that was a useful subsidiary object; the primary purpose was to establish an international *esprit de corps*. During the eighteen months for which this system of visits had been in existence 250 medical officers of health from forty-three different countries had participated, and he believed that after the system had been in operation for five or ten years all the holders of public health posts in the world which were regarded as of strategic importance would be in contact with one another, and would have become real collaborators in the international promotion of health.

Sir W. HALE-WHITE, in expressing the thanks of those present to Dr. Rajchman, said that this was evidently the largest example of team work in existence. States which would not look at one another politically nor enter the same League would co-operate in the International Health Organization.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION.

MEDICAL SECTIONS.

(Continued from page 727.)

IN our two last issues we dealt more particularly with those exhibits at Wembley which were of medical interest inasmuch as they were concerned with the problems of human health and disease. In the exhibit next to be described this question of human health is of less importance relatively, the main interest lying primarily in the prevention of disease in farm animals and in plants of agricultural importance. Although in some cases these infections can spread to man, yet in most of them their importance arises from the damage done to the food supplies of both man and animals.

Helminthology Exhibit of the London School of Tropical Medicine.

In the Department of the Ministry of Agriculture in the Government Pavilion an exhibition case has been designed and prepared by Professor R. T. Leiper, of the Institute of Agricultural Helminthology (London School of Tropical Medicine), to demonstrate the nature of the work performed in detecting and identifying parasitic worms in domestic animals and plants, the ways in which infection spreads, and also the developmental stages of these worms—a matter of great importance from the preventive point of view.

One large bay of this exhibition case sets out the manner in which the dog may be the means of the spread of these infections throughout a farm. An illuminated silhouette study of a farmer and various farm animals grouped round the dog will certainly attract the attention of the passer-by, who will thus be led to take notice of the specimens of the five different varieties of tapeworms commonly inhabiting the intestines of the dog. The cysts produced by each of these species in the different farm animals are exhibited in dissected specimens, and there is also a complete tapeworm mounted as a transparency to show the head and the egg-bearing segments. A smaller bay shows the disease produced by eelworms, which invade the stems, leaves, and roots of various plants and are responsible for serious agricultural disaster when such plants as clover, oats, wheat, tomatoes, and beet are attacked. The devastation wrought in potatoes receives special attention, and the widespread destruction of crops of different kinds resulting from these parasites is shown by striking photographs. Another bay illustrates the morphology of various adult worms and their migration in the process of development through such intermediate hosts as snails, fish, and earthworms. The different appearances of the eggs of these worms are displayed by illuminated transparencies, and an explanation given of the way in which diagnosis of these parasitic infections is rendered possible during the life of the infected animal by examination of the faeces, thus enabling curative and preventive measures to be taken. In this bay, moreover, are shown the macroscopic and the microscopic changes brought about in the tissues of various organs by the presence of these parasites. The examples shown include the "lung flukes" of dogs, tapeworms, and the causes of "gapes" in chickens, "pimply gut" and "worm nodules" in cattle, and bilharziasis in man. In another bay, finally, is set out the organization of the Institute of Agricultural Helminthology, including its close association with such collecting grounds as the Zoological Gardens, the metropolitan meat markets, and the hospitals of the Seamen's Hospital Society. A small chart demonstrates the way in which the Institute draws supplies of material from foreign lands through the overseas activities and connexions of the London School of Tropical Medicine. All these specimens and illustrations are clearly labelled and described so that the maximum of information about the spread of the different diseases may be available, and the whole exhibit bears impressive witness to the extent and importance of the work that is being carried on by the Institute.

In addition to a short article on this exhibit in the official Handbook of the Exhibition, an illustrated pamphlet is being prepared which will enable the great amount of research work done to be fully appreciated.

Chemical Exhibits.

In the Chemical Hall, which is situated in the Palace of Industry, the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers has prepared special exhibits to illustrate the advances made during the last twenty years. In the centre of the Scientific Section of the Chemical Hall an ingenious daylight display of an iridescent fountain will draw many people to this more technical section, since water, as it falls, seems to be transformed into flashes of differently coloured flames. The outline of the manufacture of such substances as aspirin, various alkaloids, and insulin is shown, and the synthetic preparation of complex organic medicinal chemicals. Various kinds of anaesthetics, organo-therapeutic products, disinfectants, microscopic stains, and compressed drugs are also exhibited. A large number of firms have contributed in the construction of an extensive and impressive exhibit.

International Health Conference.

Under the presidency of Lord Burnham an International Health Conference, organized by the People's League of Health, will be held at Wembley during the four days May 21st to 24th inclusive. The subjects to be discussed include housing and house sanitation, food, air, light, and water in connexion with health, tropical diseases, mental and industrial hygiene, and future legislation with regard to health matters. A literature stall is being arranged and will contain publications dealing with these subjects.