

MEDICINE

British Anti-Cancer Serum Aids Human Patients

"Encouraging Results" Reported When Injection Is Used On 25 Volunteers Previously Considered Doomed

"ENCOURAGING RESULTS" in the treatment of 25 human cases of cancer with an anti-cancer serum were reported by Dr. Thomas Lumsden of the London Hospital at the annual meeting of the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

Twenty-five victims of this dread disease volunteered to undergo the serum treatment which Dr. Lumsden has been working on for more than seven years. They were suffering from cancers which had recurred after the original tumors had been treated by surgery or radium. Their condition was diagnosed as hopeless by physicians.

Each of these volunteers had some of the serum injected into the main mass of his cancer or into the artery leading to it. Dr. Lumsden reported that the results in these cases were so encouraging as to justify "intensive pursuit of the method," although he considers the work still in the experimental stage.

The chief difficulties with the treatment are achieving distribution of the

serum throughout the tumor and keeping it localized in the tumor area long enough for it to produce results.

In these human cases, Dr. Lumsden used only one fraction of the anti-serum which he has been developing. This fraction, called the euglobulin fraction, gives a solution of anticancer bodies ten times as strong as the anti-serum as a whole. In other words, it is ten times as potent a weapon for treating the disease.

The serum not only cured spontaneous cancers in mice but prevented the recurrence of such cancers in seventy-five per cent. of the animals. Some of these mice are now living a year after the injection of the anti-serum. The fact that one year of life for mice corresponds roughly to thirty years of life for man gives an idea of the effectiveness of this method of treatment. Five years of freedom from the disease is considered the criterion for cure of cancer in man.

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MINING

Bureau of Mines to Lose Fourth of Personnel

ANOTHER SCIENTIFIC bureau of the Federal Government suffered on July 15 when economy edict cut off practically one-fourth of the personnel in the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

About 190 to 200 employees received notice that they would be separated from the service on July 15 provided the Civil Service Commission approves. In case the Commission fails to act the employees will be placed upon indefinite furlough. This means that from 25 to 30 per cent. of the present staff of the Bureau is being dismissed from the Government service. About 70 of those fired are scientific or technical person-

nel, it was said. Although the separations are effective on July 15, it was stated at the Civil Service Commission that the list had not been received by them until that date.

The dismissals were made necessary by a drastic reduction in funds. Of the \$1,514,300 appropriated by Congress for the Bureau of Mines, \$414,300 has been withheld by the Secretary of Commerce, who allotted but \$1,100,000 to the Bureau for the coming fiscal year. This is a 27.3 per cent. reduction in funds.

All field offices and stations of the Bureau are affected by this drastic cut.



GOLDEN MASK

This gold mask from the treasure tomb of Monte Alban represents the most gruesome of Mexican gods, Xipe, god of the flayed. In ancient Indian rites to the honor of this god, a woman was beheaded and her skin became the dress worn by a ritual dancer. The mask is among the Monte Alban jewels exhibited at the Chicago Century of Progress Exposition.

Some are being abolished entirely; all will have the scope of their activities curtailed.

The health division of the Bureau is being abolished, and the officers who have been assigned there from the Public Health Service are being returned to the Service. The helium division is being merged with the petroleum and natural gas division.

The offices of the Bureau have been quietly moved from the new Commerce Department building to the building of the Interior Department. Officials of the Bureau said in answer to inquiry that they have not been informed of any actual transfer of the Bureau to the Interior Department, however. In the office of Secretary Roper it was said that the transfer is expected soon.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

Mexican Treasure-Jewels Displayed In Chicago

THE SPLENDOR of Mexico's departed princes is added to the other wonders of Chicago's Century of Progress Exposition with the opening of the special treasure car containing the famous Monte Alban jewels. The