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the next few days as he goes to and from his hotel; but it is safe to say that none of them who has not known him before will recognise in him the scientist who after years of brilliant research has discovered what is believed by many expert investigators to be the most hopeful treatment for tuberculosis yet known.

For M. Spahlinger is not at all like the popular notion of a research worker.

He is only 43, and he looks younger. He is rather short, but of athletic build, and before he was a scientist he was a champion tennis player.

He is modest. He smiles in conversation like a man in whom courtesy and a sense of humour are well balanced.

M. Spahlinger looks as if he might be a clever lawyer; indeed he was, for he studied law before he tackled bacteriology, and at any moment can turn to and fill a lucrative position in a lawyer's office.

I talked to him for an hour about his work, but not in all that time would he make any general claims about his treatment. "That," he said, "is for other people to do. Those who have examined the cases I have treated can say what they have found."

He told me of individual cases, but it was the human interest in them that made him talk. The Parliamentary Medical Committee of five doctors which recently investigated and reported enthusiastically about his work, spoke of his "astounding generosity to poor patients."

"The man in the next room," he said to me today, "came all the way from Australia and arrived penniless at Geneva. He had an idea of supporting himself by shooting and fishing. One lung was entirely solid."

"I do not want individual patients, but what can one do? One cannot turn them away, especially when they have usually come to me only as a last resort. The man is now cured, and I am trying to arrange for his passage back to Australia."

The Parliamentary medical committee reported that they had examined "with meticulous care" about 50 patients and found some now cured and well who had suffered from tuberculosis of a severity from which, by no other means at present known to science, could they be expected to recover, and they gave many proofs of the efficacy of the Spahlinger method.

"The basis of my treatment," said M. Spahlinger to me, "is that there is no one poison, but 22 different poisons which may be found to be causing the tuberculosis."

"In order to get the serum with which I inject the patient I have to obtain 22 different sera from 22 different sources."

"At first I used goats and sheep, then I used donkeys, but now I use horses. The sera is now better than ever in concentration."

"At present, owing to financial difficulties, I have only seven different sera, and am able to get cures even with that limitation."

"It is really getting a horse to make the fight for health which the man's own constitution cannot make."

M. Spahlinger has come to England to find a way out of the financial difficulties which are hindering his work.

Notice has been received that the house and estate near Geneva in which he carries out his work will be put up for auction on July 25, and it will take about £15,000 to clear matters up.

An easy way might be found if M. Spahlinger were willing to commercialise his discovery. He has received an offer of £250,000 and half profits from a great manufacturing firm. But M. Spahlinger will not take that line.

His hope is to see tuberculosis stamped out in every country in the world.

He would be willing to have his sera and vaccine manufactured in this country under the direct control of the Government, as in the case of smallpox, or of any other great responsible institution. He would not ask for any financial reward for permission to manufacture it.

But he holds the strongest possible views about the importance of preventing tuberculosis as well as curing it after the patient has been spreading the germs among other people for two or three years.

He believes that anyone who develops any of the early symptoms of tuberculosis should have the right to be examined free of charge by a thoroughly qualified and thoroughly equipped specialist, and then, if the presence of the disease is proved, that he should be given immediately the best curative treatment, whether Spahlinger or any other.

I hope that Mr. Spahlinger will this time obtain the necessary financial assistance to enable his work to be carried a step further. And if he should succeed, as we all devoutly hope, and if at the same time the discovery of the "Cancer Germ" should lead to the finding of a remedy for that dreadful disease, two great scourges productive of untold misery would be gradually losing ground. Amen!

Why is it that another "scourge," namely, religious intolerance, or, perhaps better, "religious militancy," still flourishes in 20th century Europe?

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It is long ago since Frederick the so-called "Great" let it be understood that "ein jeder kann nach seiner Façon selig werden." But religious—mind you, "so-called" religious, because to my mind, there is nothing very religious in attacking your fellow because he believes in God in his own way which may not be yours—disputes still occur. Not sanguinary ones, for the moment, rather wordy and theatrically demonstrative ones. But by-and-by, if these disputes are taken seriously and not killed by common sense and ridicule, they will no doubt heat people's tempers until bloodshed occurs again. And for what? Tell me for what?

The *Universe and Catholic Weekly*, 8th inst., has a short paragraph headed:—

Counter-Reformation.

For the first time since the Protestant Reformation the Blessed Sacrament has been carried in procession through the streets of Berne, the capital of Switzerland.

Over 2,000 people took part in the procession, and immediately behind the Blessed Sacrament walked M. Jean Musy, the president, and M. Motta, foreign minister of the Confederation, both of them Catholics.

In the Catholic parts of Switzerland, such as Basle, Fribourg, Valais, and Lucerne, similar processions have been constantly held. But in Protestant centres such as Zurich, Catholics have still to struggle for the necessary permission and safeguards for public processions.

Now why on earth do Catholics wish to have processions, if it is not to advertise their faith, which in itself is more or less an insult to adherents of other faiths. Protestants do not carry out processions. They are content to worship inside their churches and more even at home, in the fields, unwatched, silently and unheeded by any. They do not require the stimulating effect of processions and other means. They do not interfere with other people's daily pursuits, do not hold up traffic. Why should the Catholics do it? Why should any religious party be allowed to proselytize? It seems all wrong to me. I would not mind such processions if they were looked upon in the same way one looks upon processions formed on the occasion of a tir federal, etc. But when such processions are party-processions, likely to stir up strife and heart-burnings, then I should think them "anti-christian" because they do not exhibit, nor are they due to, a feeling of "brotherly love." "Paris vaut bien une messe" was the cynical remark on a famous occasion, and I still think there is something eminently sad and unchristian in the so-called Christian churches, Protestant and Catholic alike, trying, as they evidently do sometimes, to convert each other's adherents to their own brand of Christianity. Look around among the poor and concentrate your energy on the task of making their lot on earth an easier one and I feel convinced that action in that direction will be more agreeable to the Almighty than proselytizing as mentioned above.

A September Babel.

Times (14th July, 1925).

The following article from the *Times*' Special Correspondent at Geneva will, no doubt, interest most of my readers, seeing that most of them are enthusiastic wireless fans. Most of you have surely listened in o' nights, tried to get some station or other and been amazed by the immensity of sound filling the ether at a time when the poet would have been enraptured by the "stillness" of the night air.

The international character of broadcasting, and the need of the widest possible outlook at all times in dealing with its development, have just been made abundantly clear.

It was inevitable that the rapid rise to popularity of broadcast telephony, first, in the United States, and later, in Great Britain, France, Germany, and Sweden, would sooner or later be reflected in other European countries. That action has been somewhat slow; some countries are still unsettled, others are suffering an almost unbearable financial strain, and one or two see danger in the free use of wireless.

That there was a general movement towards the development of broadcasting in the less favourably situated countries of Europe was most gratifying to those who believe that broadcasting can do possibly more than any other agency to bring about conditions necessary for peace, commercial prosperity, and individual

happiness; at the same time it gave grounds for anxiety. The ether is free, but it is limited in its capacity. What guarantee was there that in the next broadcasting season the European ether would not become a chaos? There was no guarantee; for this reason it was decided that the most important thing in European broadcasting was to devise a system by which the process of development in the several countries would not be at haphazard, but would be in relation to what was happening elsewhere.

The outcome of this decision has been a meeting at Geneva, under the auspices of the Office International de Radiophonie, of senior wireless technicians from almost every European State. By the courtesy of the Secretariat of the League of Nations, these experts were able to hold their conference in the Palais des Nations. There were surprises in store for them. That portion of the European ether usually set apart by Governments for the exercise of broadcast telephony has only a limited capacity. Beyond that capacity it is impossible for wireless stations to operate without mutual interference. Direct information and newspaper reports had shown that "saturation point" was at hand. When the delegates arrived at Geneva it was found that they had in mind over 110 stations within the broadcasting wave-limits, besides numerous others on specially allotted higher waves.

There was no alternative but to treat the situation internationally. Such plans as were about to be made would have to be considered first from a European point of view, and afterwards in the light of local interest, because, however strong the local claim, no service worthy of the name would be possible if exposed to interruptions from foreign stations. It is gratifying to record that so appreciative were these experts of the position, that the ether was parcelled out in new lots most harmoniously. Judging by the original plans, many sacrifices have been made,

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Swiss Art Exhibition.

A fine collection of water-colours, by W. Bollier, has been kindly sent us (sale or return) and will be exhibited for the next few weeks in the banquet hall. Open to the public every afternoon free.

WILLY MEYER, Manager.

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