

NOTE.—The Professor of Pathology has not indicated any intention of taking up the education and breeding of germs of this type.—Editor.

### A BENEFICENT LAW.

June 16, 1922.

Mr. Editor:

You say in the June issue, under the above caption, some years ago Massachusetts enacted a law providing for the reporting of cases of ophthalmia neonatorum. During 1921 no case of blindness resulted from this disease.

Will you please explain how you obtained your data? The Massachusetts law not only "provides" for reporting all cases, but imposes a fine for failure to report.

Nevertheless, it can hardly be claimed that all cases are reported, and if so reported how has it been possible to follow up the whole of Massachusetts, so as to know the end-results?

The writer is in thorough sympathy with the law and knows full well that appropriate treatment will save most cases from serious impairment of vision if commenced early. But appropriate treatment is well nigh impossible without specially trained eye nurses, and of these there is a very limited supply outside of the Eye and Ear Infirmary.

Massachusetts is one of the few states which does not demand the use of some silver salt as a prophylactic, and there is no disease where the value of prophylaxis is more clearly proved. Unfortunately your readers will infer that prophylaxis is of secondary importance, if simply reporting a case after the disease has become established ensures a 100 per cent. cure.

DAVID W. WELLS.

NOTE.—The statement was taken from facts supplied by the Commission for the Blind.

The contention of Dr. Wells is pertinent because the mere reporting of the case is only the first step to be taken. As soon as the report is received it has been the custom to place a specialist in association with the attending physician. While the necessary nursing care may not always be available, great improvement has resulted, therefore the law is a beneficent one.—Editor.

### MASSACHUSETTS CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS FOR BACTERIOLOGIST IN THE BOSTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

The salary is from \$1800 to \$2000 a year. The examination is open to both men and women. Applicants must have had a medical or scientific school education, or its equivalent, and practical training in a private or public bacteriological or public health laboratory for at least two years, or have had equivalent training or experience.

The subjects of examination with their respective weights will be as follows: Training and experience (4); practical laboratory examination in bacteriology, protozoology, helminthology, serology, hematology (4); practical laboratory examination in bacteriology technique (2); total (10).

Applicants will be required to obtain a mark of at least 65 per cent. in training and experience.

Successful applicants will be required to file a certificate from a reputable physician as to their physical fitness for the position.

### NOTICE OF EXAMINATION FOR ENTRANCE INTO THE REGULAR CORPS OF THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.

Examination of candidates for entrance into the Regular Corps of the United States Public Health Service will be held at the following-named places on the dates specified:

At Washington, D. C., July 10, 1922; at New York City, July 10, 1922; at Chicago, Illinois, July 10, 1922; at San Francisco, Cal., July 10, 1922, at New Orleans, La., July 10, 1922.

Candidates must be not less than twenty-three nor more than thirty-two years of age, and they must have been graduated in medicine at some reputable medical college, and have had one year's hospital experience or two years' professional practice. They must pass satisfactorily, oral, written, and clinical tests before a board of medical officers and undergo a physical examination.

Successful candidates will be recommended for appointment by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Requests for information or permission to take this examination should be addressed to the Surgeon General, United States Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.

H. S. CUMMING, *Surgeon General.*

### UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS.

Toxicologist, \$3,600 to \$5,000 a year. Associate Toxicologist, \$2,500 to \$3,600 a year. Assistant Toxicologist, \$1,800 to \$2,500 a year. Receipt of applications to close July 3, 1922.

The United States Civil Service Commission announces open competitive examinations for these positions.

**PATHOLOGY AND DIAGNOSIS OF TUMORS.**—A course in the pathology and diagnosis of tumors will be given by Professor William H. Woglom, M.D., at the Institute of Cancer Research, 1145 Amsterdam Avenue, in connection with the summer session of Columbia University, New York, beginning on July 10, 1922, and lasting for six weeks. Classes will be held daily, except on Saturday, from 2 to 4 p. m. The fee for the course will be \$46.00. Application should be made to the Director of the Summer Session, Columbia University, New York.

DR. FRANK R. SEDGLEY has removed from Fox Hills Hospital, Staten Island, New York, to U. S. Veterans' Hospital, No. 65, St. Paul, Minnesota.

### NATIONAL BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.

The dates for the next two examinations of the National Board of Medical Examiners are as follows: Part I and II, June 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, 1922. Part I and II, September 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29, 1922.

Applications for the June examination should be in the Secretary's office not later than May 15th, and for the September examination not later than June 1st. Application blanks and circulars of information may be had by writing to the Secretary, Dr. J. S. Rodman, 1310 Medical Arts Building, Philadelphia.

### EXAMINATION FOR REGISTRATION.

At the May examination of applicants for registration as physicians in Massachusetts twenty-six were examined, eleven were registered, twelve were rejected, three laid on the table for further consideration.