

CANCER CONGRESS:

To London's Festival Hall come experts of 63 countries at war with a common enemy - cancer. The Seventh International Cancer Congress is presided over by Sir Stanford Cade, one of Britain's outstanding surgeons, who greets the delegates - including two nuns from Texas. The experts come from many different types of organisations, but all are concerned with some aspects of cancer treatment or research.

Hospitals and Clinics in Britain and throughout the world are the headquarters from which the war against cancer is waged - a costly and intricate war, whose weapons demand huge sums of money. This electron microscope, for example, is needed to study the basic process of cancer - the abnormal behaviour of living cells. Not only research, but treatment, too, requires costly apparatus like this cobalt theratron, revolving round a patient's affected leg.

Medical and surgical staff working on the treatment of cancer require special training - which is another expensive item. But it is all worth while - because they believe that cancer, the world's biggest killer, can be defeated for good and all. Their confidence is shared by the World Congress - whose president, Sir Stanford Cade, in his opening speech, mentions some of the many problems they will be discussing:

"Reports will be given on the research of the unstable components of cigarette smoke and the formation of Carcinogenic Germs from combustion of cigarette paper and of the results of cigarette smoking by Laboratory animals. But equally important are the studies on atmospheric pollution by smoke, not from cigarettes, but from Factory chimneys and chimneys from home and from the exhaust gases of motor vehicles. Surely, the day will dawn when the toil is accomplished and the last International Cancer Congress will be held as others will no longer be needed." (Applause)