

MEASLES.

Permanent immunisation of children against measles by the use of their parents' blood has been found so successful in New York City that physicians are to be advised as to the method of drawing the adult blood and injecting it into children exposed to measles. This is expected to be a heavy measles year, and much stress is being placed on the efficacy of the comparatively new whole blood injection treatment, which has withstood the most rigorous tests in a study covering ten years. Since the use of whole blood of adults was brought to the fore in Germany, in 1920, Dr. William H. Park and his associates in the Department of Health in New York have studied it closely, and because of its great immunisation qualities this method is now strongly advocated by the Health Commissioner for general adoption.

Although the use of serum from convalescent cases of measles has been quite general and successful for some years, it has always been difficult to obtain it in sufficient quantities.

The use of the adult blood makes it much easier for the physician, for the reason that it can be obtained right in the home of the patient, and coming directly from the parents there are absolutely no deleterious effects.

The blood is taken from either the father or the mother of the child, from the vein just above the elbow of either arm. A syringe holding one ounce is used and when the blood is withdrawn half of it is injected into the muscles in the right buttock of the child and the other half in the left. If there is to be any delay in the use of the blood a small quantity of a sterile solution of sodium citrate is used in the syringe to prevent the clotting of the blood.

Dr. Alfred Hess, who aided in the studies and tests, recently used the serum and the whole blood treatment in an institution, giving one group of the exposed children the adult blood and the other portion convalescents' serum. The children receiving the latter developed fewer cases of measles, but those who were given the whole blood of adults had modified cases. The latter outcome is really preferable, because those in whom measles was absolutely prevented developed no lasting immunity, and after one month were again liable to contract the malady, while those who had modified or mild attacks were rendered immune to measles for life.

The use of the blood of parents in combating measles will, in some measure, aid the city in solving the very important problem of preventing measles, but its greatest value is in saving life. Now the blood can be obtained right in the home of the child, and we believe the way is opened not only to reduce the measles death rate, but to render more children immune to the disease each year.

Abstract from a release from The Health Commissioner of New York, February 9th, 1930.

Dr. N. Pavloff writes in the current issue of the *Leprosy Review*: "We consider that chromic acid is one of the best drugs that has been tried for the cure of the Leprosy process on the mucous membrane of the tongue, uvula, soft and hard palate.

NURSING ECHOES.

The Queen received at Buckingham Palace on March 25th Miss R. Osborne, C.B.E., R.R.C. (upon relinquishing her appointment as Matron-in-Chief) and Miss M. E. Medforth, R.R.C. (upon her appointment as Matron-in-Chief, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service).

Dame Ann Beadsmore Smith, D.B.E., R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief, Territorial Army Nursing Service, had the honour of being received by Her Majesty the Queen at Buckingham Palace on March 22nd, 1930, and presenting to Her Majesty the undernamed recently appointed Principal Matrons, T.A.N.S., who were presented by Her Majesty with the Badge of the T.A.N.S.:—

Miss W. Bowling (Matron, Royal Infirmary, Sheffield), Principal Matron, 3rd Northern General Hospital; Miss A. Charteris (Matron, Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne), Principal Matron, 1st Northern General Hospital; Miss H. Dey, R.R.C. (Matron, St. Bartholomew's Hospital), Principal Matron, 1st London General Hospital; Miss L. G. Duff Grant (Matron, Royal Infirmary, Manchester), Principal Matron, 2nd Western General Hospital; Miss M. Hughes (Matron, Royal Infirmary, Leicester), Principal Matron, 5th Northern General Hospital; Miss E. M. S. Johnston (Matron, Royal Infirmary, Bristol), Principal Matron, 2nd Southern General Hospital; Miss M. Jones, A.R.R.C. (Matron, Royal Infirmary, Liverpool), Principal Matron, 1st Western General Hospital; Miss A. Stopford Smyth (Matron, Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter), to be Principal Matron, 4th Southern General Hospital; Miss E. W. Young (Matron, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton), Principal Matron, 2nd Eastern General Hospital.

The Dowager Countess of Minto, C.I., Miss Haldane, C.H., LL.D., J.P., and the Matron-in-Chief, T.A.N.S., subsequently entertained the Principal Matrons at a luncheon party at the United Nursing Services' Club, 34, Cavendish Square, W.1

The scheme under which many of the most beautiful and interesting gardens in England and Wales are thrown open to the public is being organised again this year in connection with the Queen's Institute of District Nursing and the Nursing Associations throughout the country.

The King has consented to open the gardens at Sandringham on every Wednesday and Thursday, while the Court is not in residence, beginning on Wednesday, April 2nd. The response of the garden owners has been most gratifying, and arrangements have already been made for the opening of nearly 800 gardens. Copies of the list giving full particulars, can be obtained from Lady Georgiana Mure, Queen's Institute of District Nursing, 58, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

The report of the Ranyard Nurses, the Nursing Branch of the Ranyard Mission, 25, Russell Square, W.C.1, is an excellent record of good work done amongst the sick poor in their own homes. Sixty-two years ago the first Ranyard Nurses began work after four months' experience in a General Hospital. Now no Nurse is accepted for permanent work on the Staff unless she holds

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