

# VACCINATION USELESS AND DANGEROUS.

FOR years the subject of vaccination has been hotly and bitterly debated. Judging, however from the official records of vaccinations in England and Wales, a majority of parents in this country disbelieve in the operation. In recent years only about 40 per cent. of the infants born were vaccinated. Nevertheless, belief in vaccination persists in official and medical circles despite the vast accumulation of evidence which shows that the operation not only is no protection against smallpox, but may itself do very serious damage to the health of the person undergoing it.

Every statement that follows is taken from official records.

## Most Vaccination, Most Smallpox.

Jenner introduced vaccination in 1798, within the next eight years he had received £30,000 from Parliament for his "wonderful discovery," although there was no means of knowing at that time whether his claim of lifelong protection was justified, in 1840 vaccination was put on the rates, it was made compulsory in 1853, and most stringently so in 1867. Statistics of public vaccination, an examination of London school records in 1863 and the Army recruiting figures for the period 1861-69 reveal how thoroughly the population was vaccinated when the great smallpox epidemic of 1871-2 struck this country and killed over 42,000 persons.

While the vaccinators had been demanding more and more vaccination, despite accumulating evidence of the uselessness of the operation as a protection against smallpox, the sanitarians had been preaching that all zymotic disease could be abolished by the application of sanitary laws. In 1875 the great Public Health Act was passed, and although from 1889 there was a steady decline in the amount of vaccination performed in this country, smallpox declined until today it is almost extinct in a practically unvaccinated community. During the period when the country was most vaccinated it had the most smallpox, and when it was least vaccinated it has had the least smallpox.

## No Protection of Individuals.

Coming next to the question of individual protection against smallpox, the official statistics show that as the country became more and more vaccinated, the percentage of vaccinated persons in the smallpox hospitals increased until in the eighties of last century from 90 to 100 per cent. of the smallpox cases were vaccinated persons.

Re-vaccination has never been practised in this country to any extent, yet in the London smallpox outbreak of 1901-2 there were 274 re-vaccinated cases, with 27 deaths. Hospital records reveal that smallpox has developed as recently as nineteen days after successful re-vaccination. The official statistics regarding disease in our Army in

Mesopotamia disclose that 287 recently vaccinated soldiers took small-pox and 29 of them died, in 1916-17.

### **Who Killed Off the Unvaccinated?**

Pro-vaccinists publish tables showing high fatality-rates from smallpox in the unvaccinated, but they do not explain why unvaccinated smallpox should have been so much more fatal in the nineteenth century than in the eighteenth century. When no smallpox patients had been vaccinated the average fatality-rate was less than 18 per cent. How then can fatality-rates of 40 and 50 per cent. be explained? The anti-vaccinist points out that when the country was well vaccinated the unvaccinated class was limited to the very young, the weak and sickly who could not be vaccinated owing to their physical condition, and the extremely neglected classes who, if attacked by any disease, would be likely to suffer severely. When, however, the unvaccinated class included older, healthier, and better-cared-for persons, its fatality-rate from smallpox dropped, as at Leicester, to less than half the vaccinated fatality-rate of other towns. Medical writers have repeatedly called attention to the extraordinarily low unvaccinated fatality-rate of smallpox in recent years.

### **International Statistics Lend No Support to Vaccination.**

Statistics of smallpox in the reports of the Health Organisation of the League of Nations show that the highest death-rates for the years 1921-30, per hundred thousand of population, occurred in Mexico, British India, Chosen, Java and Madura, Egypt, Yugoslavia, Rumania and Italy, all of them countries where vaccination is thoroughly carried out. Mexico has a sanitary code which prescribes compulsory vaccination at birth and re-vaccination every five years. Few populations could be more vaccinated than that of British India. The records for Egypt show that practically the whole of the population has been vaccinated within recent years. Italy has a stringently compulsory vaccination and re-vaccination law.

The countries with the lowest smallpox death-rates were Norway, Denmark, Austria, Germany, Bulgaria, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Finland, Scotland and England and Wales. Norway has no compulsory law and only about two-fifths of its infants are vaccinated. Holland suspended its compulsory vaccination law in 1928, and for the next 12 years very few of its infants were vaccinated. Scotland has had a conscience clause since 1907, and its latest statistics show that less than half the children born are vaccinated.

International statistics, therefore, lend no support to belief in vaccination.

The countries most free from smallpox are Australia and New Zealand, where only about one per cent. of the babies born are vaccinated.

Such investigations as have been made have revealed the closest connection of smallpox with poverty, dirt, insanitation, bad feeding and general ignorance. The disease is spread by tramps, and while the

poison bred in filthy conditions may infect better-class people, the bulk of the cases in every outbreak are found in the poorest, most overcrowded, or most insanitary parts of the city. The nations with the highest smallpox death-rates are those where the standard of life is low, where poverty is rampant, and where the word sanitation is not understood.

### **Danger of Vaccination.**

The Royal Commission which sat from 1889 to 1896 to investigate the vaccination question, although composed mainly of strong supporters of vaccination, had to admit that the bad effects of the operation were not inconsiderable in gross amount. In 1931 the Ministry of Health issued a Review of the Vaccination Acts in which, while attempting to minimise the former bad results of vaccination, it admitted that the operation has always carried with it an element of risk. It declared that in the last century the occasional occurrence of erysipelas or sepsis in a vaccinated arm "was accepted as an incidental drawback of vaccination." It also referred to generalised vaccinia as having "also been known ever since vaccination was practised." The question of syphilis following vaccination was mentioned, and while it was maintained that the occurrence was so exceptional and required such an unusual combination of circumstances "that it need not enter into the calculations of the ordinary citizen who was vaccinated or had his child vaccinated," it was admitted that it was not a matter which "the public could be expected to treat philosophically with a nice sense of balance and it led, in a large measure, to the creation of anti-vaccination and conscientious objectors to vaccination."

The Report then dealt with the question of post-vaccinal encephalitis, which it admitted to be a serious matter. It alluded to the Vaccination Order, 1929, which reduced the number of vaccination marks from four to one and discouraged the primary vaccination of children of school age and of adolescents unless they had been in personal contact with a case of smallpox. This Order was issued on account of a "characteristic disease of the brain and nervous system" which followed vaccination "notwithstanding every possible care in regard to the vaccine and the treatment of the arm." The Report stated that "it is not yet proved that any modification of the vaccinal virus, or of the method of vaccination, can be made with the certainty that post-vaccinal encephalitis has been rendered impossible." It is also admitted that it is not associated with any one class of lymph or method of lymph preparation or detail of technique of vaccination, or with the occurrence of any recognisable anomaly in the local course of vaccination. It was further admitted that since post-vaccinal encephalitis was first identified and intensively studied some six or seven years ago "it has continued to occur with little sign of abatement in the circumstances we have now learnt to consider favourable to its appearance."

So serious did the Ministry of Health consider the occurrence of post-vaccinal encephalitis that it appointed two Committees to invest-

igate the matter. Their reports were issued in 1928 by the Rolleston Committee, which issued a second report in 1930.

In the Report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health for 1933 the attention of employers of labour and the heads of convalescent homes, schools and similar institutions was drawn to the view of the Ministry of Health that children and young persons should not be vaccinated for the first time unless in danger of smallpox—advice given on account of the possibility of encephalitis being caused by vaccination.

Official answers in Parliament reveal that during the last twenty years more than twice as many children under two years of age have been killed by vaccination as have died from smallpox.

It is not possible to assess the indirect damage done by vaccination. If one starts an inquiry in almost any circle of friends or acquaintances, an enormous amount of suffering through vaccination is revealed. Case after case of lifelong injury comes to light. It has been stated that the bad effects of vaccination must have been extremely rare or the leaders of the medical profession would not have stated, as they did in 1856, that bad effects were entirely unknown. The late Mrs. Henry Fawcett, however, in an article justifying the relaxation of the compulsory law in 1898, remarked: "I think there is evidence in plenty to show that if bad results following on vaccination were unknown, it must have been because the minds of the majority of the medical profession were so entirely engrossed by what they believed to be its good effects that they were incapable of taking in anything else." That was written nearly fifty years ago, but the minds of many doctors still seem so engrossed by what they think to be the good results of vaccination that they resolutely refuse to admit that the operation can do harm. Nevertheless, many highly respected and influential doctors in recent years have admitted at medical conferences that the effects of vaccination may be far more serious than the effects of smallpox, and the British Medical Association went so far at its annual meeting in 1935 as to adopt a report acquiescing in the repeal of the Vaccination Acts. Although the Association pays lip-service to vaccination it is certain that the occurrence of so many cases of post-vaccinal encephalitis has caused this change of heart.

Amongst the workers for the anti-vaccination cause whose mental powers received the widest recognition were Alfred Russel Wallace, Dr. Charles Creighton and Herbert Spencer. Creighton called vaccination a grotesque superstition. Alfred Russel Wallace declared that the anti-vaccination movement was the most important political movement of his day. The truth to which these men bore witness is spreading in circles that for a long time were apparently closed to all argument, and if parents would study the subject for themselves in a few years vaccination will die out, at all events, in Great Britain, as it has already practically died out in Australia and New Zealand.



# THE ARCHIVE COLLECTION

THIS LITERATURE WAS COLLECTED  
FROM VARIOUS SOURCES  
OVER THE YEARS OF MY RESEARCH  
ON VACCINATION  
WHICH STARTED IN SEPTEMBER 1991.

FORTUNATELY I RECEIVED  
SEVERAL DOCUMENTS  
AND BOOKS FROM INDIVIDUALS  
WHO HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN  
THE ANTI-VACCINATION LEAGUE OF GREAT BRITAIN  
DURING THEIR LIFE TIME.

THE LATE DR GORDON LATTO, WHO SERVED AS THE MEDICAL  
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE LEAGUE DURING THE MID 1900s.  
ALSO, IAN & MONIQUE STIRLING TO NAME A FEW.

ALSO THANKS TO JOHN WANTLING, AN INDEPENDENT  
RESEARCHER, FOR PATIENTLY PHOTOCOPYING  
NUMEROUS ARCHIVE PUBLICATIONS & FORWARDING  
COPIES TO ME BACK IN THE MID-NINETIES.

I HAVE SCANNED THESE PUBLICATIONS & LITERATURE  
TO PRESERVE THE WEALTH OF INFORMATION  
CONTAINED WITHIN THESE DOCUMENTS  
IN THE HOPE THAT THEY WILL BE CIRCULATED  
& MADE AVAILABLE TO ANYONE WHO WISHES  
TO STUDY THE HISTORICAL DATA  
SURROUNDING THIS SUBJECT.

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• 2017 •