

SCOTLAND'S SMALLPOX

Greatest when Population most Vaccinated

Scotland's worst epidemic of smallpox occurred when the Compulsory Vaccination Law was so thoroughly carried out that a prominent physician in Edinburgh, Dr. Alexander Wood, told a Select Committee in London in 1871 that you would have to search under the hedgerows to find any unvaccinated children.

The Compulsory Vaccination Law was passed in 1863, and in 1870-4 there were 6,376 smallpox deaths and of these 1,459 were children under 5.

A much less severe outbreak, but quite a considerable one, occurred in 1901-4, again during the operation of the stringently compulsory law.

Exemption of conscientious objectors did not start until 1907. The smallpox records show that this disease almost disappeared from Scotland during the operation of the Exemption Law. There were slight outbreaks in 1942 during which vaccination killed nearly as many children as smallpox killed adults. In Edinburgh 8 people died of smallpox, 6 of whom had been vaccinated. There were 10 deaths from vaccination in that City.

The Vaccination Laws were abolished in July 1948. During the ensuing 7 years Scotland has had only one smallpox outbreak—in 1950—in the Knightswood Fever Hospital in Glasgow. A repeatedly vaccinated Indian brought smallpox into the hospital. This case was not diagnosed, and eventually 18 other cases occurred, all but one of them nurses, patients or doctors at the hospital. The huge unvaccinated child population outside the hospital was not in any way affected by this smallpox outbreak.

What then, does the East Lothian Council's Medical Officer mean by his statement that voluntary vaccination has failed? Scotland has no smallpox.

It is constantly stated that the speed of air passage makes countries more vulnerable nowadays, but experience shows that the entry into Great Britain of hundreds of thousands of air passengers has not resulted in widespread outbreaks of smallpox. Not more than six people have brought smallpox into the country and these were all recently vaccinated people. The English Ministry of Health itself admits that if it made vaccination compulsory for every person entering the country, there could be no guarantee that smallpox would not be introduced, seeing that on three occasions, of which it gave particulars in its Annual Report for 1951, recently vaccinated people have brought smallpox into England.

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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