

VIGOROUS DISCUSSION OVER VACCINATION

**Many Speakers Opposed Compulsion by
State, Some Because They Opposed
the Method and Others Because
It Would Abridge Per-
sonal Liberty.**

State House, Nov. 15.

Vaccinationists and anti-vaccinationists were out in force last evening, and probably 200 persons gathered in the art room in the capitol at a hearing before the joint committee on public health on Senate bill 62, known as the "compulsory vaccination bill." Dr. Percy L. Templeton of Montpelier spoke for 50 minutes in opposition to the bill and introduced statistics covering a hundred years from Sweden and England to show the heavy mortality from smallpox un-

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der compulsory vaccination and a corresponding decrease in the death rate where no attempt had been made at vaccination. He referred to tetanus as following many cases of vaccination and cited Burlington's epidemic of smallpox 16 years ago in this respect, when three deaths were the result. He argued that in the city of Montpelier the sickness and annoyance from vaccination by reason of the recent smallpox scare in Barre had resulted in a greater damage financially and otherwise than the disease had caused in Barre. He said that he was not antagonistic to vaccination, but to the compulsory law which the state board of health is advocating. Dr. Templeton read many quotations from eminent authorities to substantiate his claim that sanitation rather than vaccination would abate smallpox and cited cases to uphold his contention.

Attorney J. W. Redmond of Newports spoke against the bill and argued that if the question of whether or not vaccination was a preventive for smallpox was debatable, then the state has no right to enact a compulsory law. He said that there are many people in the state who are against vaccination on religious principles and that it would be intolerance for the state to insist that their people and their children submit to vaccination at the mandate of the state board of health. He argued that the proponents of the bill must convince the committee that the question was not debatable if the committee is to report the bill favorably. In closing his remarks Mr. Redmond said: "I want to make a dent into you on that question." He was loudly applauded.

Rev. John W. Barnett of Barre spoke in opposition to the bill and claimed that such a law would be unconstitutional. He argued that such a measure would deprive one of the personal liberties guaranteed under the constitution of the United States.

Attorney Alexander Dunnett of St. Johnsbury spoke in favor of the bill and quoted from the federal law reports to show that the state has a right to enact a compulsory vaccination law. He criticised the statement made by the Barre clergyman that the proposed law restricts personal liberty and said that there is no such a thing as absolute liberty in this country and that all law is in restraint of liberty to a certain extent. There is a justification for law and consequently a restraint of liberty if one wishes to so construe law. Replying to Mr. Redmond, he said that there is no law upon the statute books which is not debatable.

Dr. C. F. Dalton of the state board of health cited statistics in this country to show a decline in mortality from smallpox where vaccination is practiced and referred to the stringent supervision exercised by the federal government over the manufacture of vaccine. As the hour was late, he did not attempt to present many figures in support of his claim, but said that physicians acknowledge that vaccination is a preventive of the disease and he urged that the vaccination of infants, as is the law in Germany, would result in lessening the danger in case of epidemic.

SOME OPPOSED, OTHERS FAVORED

"Compulsory Vaccination Bill" Now Before the Vermont Legislature for Enactment or Rejection.

The joint committees on public health held a public hearing last evening on Senate bill 62, known as the "compulsory vaccination bill." Every seat in the hall of representatives was taken, and the gallery was filled. The speakers were frequently interrupted by applause. The state board of health was given the first opportunity to speak, and Dr. C. S. Caverly of Rutland, chairman of the board, spoke in support of the measure and told of his success in vaccination as a preventive of smallpox. He ridiculed the statements made concerning a heavy death rate following vaccination and stated that not over two per cent. of vaccinated persons die from smallpox.

Dr. Henry D. Holton, secretary of the state board of health, said it was not the wish of the board to hurt the feelings of any person, but he felt that compulsory vaccination was needed, and quoted many figures from foreign countries to show a decrease in smallpox following compulsory vaccination.

Dr. C. H. Beecher of Burlington spoke in support of the bill and quoted statistics from Germany in contention that compulsory vaccination has resulted in lessening smallpox in that country.

Dr. Woodruff, health officer of Barre,

told of his experience during the recent smallpox epidemic in his city and said that out of the 47 cases reported to him 30 were unvaccinated and in three cases the vaccination had been unsuccessful.

Dr. B. H. Stone of the state laboratory at Burlington favored the bill. Dr. Henry Tucker, health officer of Brattleboro, spoke in support of the measure. Dr. William Lindsay, health officer at Montpelier, told of the terrible scourge of smallpox in Montreal within the present generation. He favored compulsory vaccination.

Dr. W. Van Blighton of North Tonawanda, N. Y., was the principal opponent of the bill and quoted a mass of figures to refute the statements made by the proponents of the measure. He indulged in several bursts of oratory and closed by appealing to the committee to consider well the wisdom of imposing compulsory vaccination on the people of Vermont. F. A. Walker of 43 State street, Montpelier, opposed the bill, as did Mr. Lowe of St. Johnsbury.

Dr. P. L. Templeton of Montpelier spoke for a number of minutes against the bill, though he acknowledged that he had no intention to deny any person the right to be vaccinated if they wished to be. He referred to various figures quoted by himself last week, when he spoke for nearly an hour before the committee.

Harland B. Howe of St. Johnsbury was introduced by Chairman Senator Dyer as the "next collector of customs at Newport." Mr. Howe in a characteristically sarcastic speech attacked the state board of health and demanded why it is necessary to give that body greater power than it now has. He said that he represented people opposed to vaccination on religious grounds, and he demanded that the committee takes into consideration the wishes of such people, especially in view of the disagreement among physicians as to the efficacy of vaccination.

Rev. J. W. Barnett of Barre spoke for only a few minutes in opposition to the measure and demanded that the committee "go slowly in reporting the measure." He was one of the really stiff opponents to the bill and stated that he should oppose with physical force, if necessary, the carrying out of such a law as is contemplated.

Dr. L. D. Martin of Barre spoke briefly and quoted to show that some vaccine is impure. Thomas Magner of Burlington, the last speaker of the evening, supported the measure and paid a compliment to the state board of health.

SERUM THERAPY.

(The following paper was read at a Grange meeting in Glover about a year ago by F. E. Simpson and the Monitor publishes it by request, taking no responsibility for statements contained therein.)

Perhaps there is no question that comes nearer the human heart than the question of perfect freedom of the individual in his choice of religion and school of medicine or system of healing.

You all know something of the awful religious persecutions that have darkened the pages of history and drenched Europe in blood. There remains, however, another form of despotism which has appeared with other monopolies during recent years in this country. I refer to medical class legislation made wholly in favor of one system of healing. A medical hierarchy is growing up in this republic as intolerant and despotic in its instinct and as deadly to human life as the religious hierarchy of the Dark Ages, which not only crushed out human life and free thought but strangled a higher mental development and rendered progress wellnigh impossible. The manifest analogy between religious and medical restrictive legislation and the injustice of both are obvious.

Owing to the limited time of this

Owing to the limited time of this discussion this paper must of course be incomplete and the facts presented somewhat disconnected. Without doubt the American Medical Association have the finest political organization in the world and for more than two decades they have been striving to obtain a national seat of power in Washington by the establishment of a Federal Department of Health. Senator Owens said that he had introduced this bill in accordance with the earnest and repeated desires of the American Medical Association. This bill as originally introduced provided for a secretary who shall be a member of the president's cabinet and under him there are to be fourteen National Bureaus of Health, each being dominated by a doctor of the regular school drawing a salary from the federal government.

In speaking of this bureau Prof. Fisher said, "Once started" it "will surely expand with a decade so that millions upon millions of government money will be put into this new form of national defense," that is, millions upon millions of government money will go into the pockets of the political doctors. If the establishment of a health department will increase longevity and relieve the people of suffering poverty, disease and sorrow, I would not only grant the political doctors of this country millions upon

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millions of government money but billions.

My purpose this afternoon is to show you that the establishment of a federal department of health dominated by one narrow materialistic school of medicine would not relieve humanity of its disease but would shackle the bands of freedom and reduce the people of this country to medical serfdom.

Twenty-five years ago there was a mania in the United States among surgeons for performing the extremely dangerous operation known as ovariectomy. After a fearful toll of human life this fad passed from the stage and was succeeded by appendicitis. The popularity of these dangerous operations is now happily on the wane but the most pernicious, subtle and deadly theory ever promulgated by doctors, whose only God in practice is matter, is now being forced upon the human race in the form of serum therapy.

The doctors tell us that anti-toxin will do for diphtheria, and that typhoid vaccination will do for these two diseases what vaccination has done for smallpox. And now Dr. Gastin Odin comes forward with a cancer serum which he says will do for cancers what Jenness's vaccine did for smallpox. Now, if the doctor's prognosis is correct, in order to know what these various serums are going to do for these diseases, we must first find out what vaccine has done for smallpox.

Medical writers and historians tell

us that the horrors of smallpox which characterized that century as the era of smallpox, was largely due to the practices of various inoculation, which at that time was in vogue in England with the doctors of medicine as an antidote for that disease.

Up to the time of inoculation smallpox was not considered any more dangerous than measles and these two diseases were classed together in the health reports up to 1738. Dr. Thomas Sydenham, writing in the year of 1669 said, "If no mischief be done by the physician smallpox is the most slight and safe of all diseases." We also have the recorded testimony of Dr. Jenness himself as to the extreme mildness of this disease. But after the introduction of inoculation this disease spread with great rapidity and virulence, until it became the scourge of the 18th century. Perhaps I have already said enough to sustain the contention that smallpox was a mild and comparatively safe disease until the doctors of so-called scientific medicine undertook to stamp it out by stamping in its contagion. The doctors of medicine continued their deadly work of inoculation until they had depopulated whole towns and filled the cemeteries, until they had turned old England into a house of lamentation in which she mourned for her dead.

The idea that smallpox became a mild disease because of vaccine is a manifest illusion and the absurd claim that it has diminished its severity has nothing tangible to support it. Dr. Marson writes, "The discontinuance of variolous inoculation rather than the practice of vaccination was the cause of the lesser prevalence of smallpox during the 19th century."

This inoculation theory was carried to such an extent and became so destructive to human life that Parliament made it a penal offense in 1840.

I wish to briefly cite two cases which have forever silenced the absurd claim that vaccine is of any value whatever as a preventive for smallpox. From 1858 to 1872 Leicester, England, was one of the most completely vaccinated cities in the British kingdom. In 1870, when at the very height of her good record, Leicester was attacked by an extremely severe epidemic of smallpox. The death rate from this disease during that year numbered 8500 per million of population. This death rate in this completely vaccinated city completely destroyed the faith of the people in vaccination and thereafter they refused to be vaccinated. Of course they were fined and imprisoned and all that, but since 1872 Leicester has refused vaccination.

From this date the boomers of the Jenness quack nostrum theory gravely prophesied again and again that once smallpox gained an entrance in this city with its great mass of unvaccinated people it would spread like wildfire on a prairie and would surely decimate the population. But when smallpox did gain an entrance there were only four deaths in this great city.

In 1872 vaccination was made compulsory in Japan. In 1886 the law was strengthened, compelling every person to be vaccinated every five or seven years. This liberty destroying law promulgated by a pagan school

has been heralded abroad by medical journals as the saviour of Japan from smallpox. Long ago I learned that medical journals were not only misleading but sometimes were unreliable.

Here are the government statistics from Japan. From 1886 to 1898, only twelve years, there were 300,000 cases of smallpox and 65,000 deaths.

Dr. Berdoe, M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P., says that "Pasteurian inoculation for hydrophobia is the most arrant quackery ever connected with medicine or surgery. He published a list of 833 persons inoculated at the Pasteur Institute, and death followed in every case. However if nothing is the matter with the person he may be inoculated at the Pasteur Institute and set down as cured."

In a free country where the citizens are at liberty to make their own selection from the various systems of healing, the death rate from diphtheria is from 12 to 14 per cent. But under compulsory anti-toxin laws the death rate is nearly 40 per cent greater. If any of you doubt this let him get the surgeon general's report from old England and compare it with the death rate in a free country where the people's liberty is untrammelled by restrictive medical legislation.

Now just a word in regard to the tuberculin test for cattle. F. N. Dow had his herd of 24 cows tested, only one reacted, one year later he had the remaining 23 tested and lost every cow. Now where did they get the disease? Let the results of the inoculation theory for smallpox answer.

I sold a calf to a hardworking farmer boy down in New Hampshire. One day a medical inspector came along and tested the calf, charging him \$12. Now is this legal robbery or is it medical serfdom?

You talk about the tryannical passport laws of Russia. But what about free America? Why even a cow cannot travel in this country without a passport and before or after they enter this state they must have the product of tuberculosis injected into them. One of the greatest veterinarians of this country says that "bovine tuberculosis is actually being distributed over this land by the use of tuberculin."

Dr. A. F. Stephens says, "We have tuberculosis paranoiacs going about among the people in the guise of an educational crusade, preaching it from the housetops, teaching it to the children, innoculating in their minds a fear and dread of the disease, which amounts to disease insanity. They carry about with them an atmosphere of disease which is highly infectious to susceptible minds and which eventually develops in these minds a state of paranoia."

I wish I could say a few words in regard to compulsory medical inspection of school children but time forbids.

About a year ago the West London Medical society extended a hearty welcome to Dr. Messer, who stands branded before the world upon his own admission as the perpetrator of one of the most odious crimes of which man can be guilty. He innoculated eight healthy persons with the most loathsome disease known to medical science with the results that four

young ladies contracted it. A doctor in Philadelphia innoculated orphan children with tuberculosis just to see what would happen. One would infer from Dr. Paget's address delivered in King's College hospital that he would not hesitate a moment to secretly inject any kind of deadly serum in one of his patients without their consent and where stealth cannot be practised he exhorts his brothers of the knife to assert their authority.

The great trusts of this country have been compared to an immense octopus reaching its tentacles into our homes and robbing us of our money without giving fair value in return. But what think you of the great American Medical trust which cannot only reach into our pocketbooks but in states where they have gained their much-sought-after legislation they can snuff out a life. Dr. Allen of St. Johnsbury says, "We see surgical sins repeated day after day, which would and should be ground for malpractice suits were the facts known to patients and their friends." I am not saying one word against anyone's family physician, for the honest liberty-loving doctor stands forever apart from the American Medical trust and its associates.

In a town down in Pennsylvania someone had smallpox and immediately the health officers ordered all the school children vaccinated. A certain man, H. W. Sweeney, was familiar with the long roll of poisoned children and desolate homes. In vain he asserted and defended his parental rights to protect his little daughter, but in spite of all he could do, the strong arm of the law that has been enacted to satisfy the greed of the medical trust,

reached into his home and innoculated his child. Next day she was ill. A week later she was a helpless invalid. Tuberculosis, lockjaw, and cerebral sciatica set in and tortured her until she died, a victim of legal murder.

Not long ago a physician, not a quack, but a Harvard graduate, insisted on using anti-toxin on two young ladies of the Brighton high school and in less than one hour serum therapy claimed another victim. Mrs. Guy Smith was another one who was in good health when innoculated and in less than ten minutes another life was sacrificed on the altar of serum therapy. Look at Germany, that nation of doctors and hygienic laws. Germany is vaccinated from the French frontiers to the Russian borders with the results that no civilized nation on earth is so severely scourged with tuberculosis.

Driven deep into a materialistic and pantheistic view of life, the so-called scientific men of today are searching for life and health where it is not. The fiendish cruelty of the vivisectors would make old Nero blush for shame. It is ignorance which lacks humanity in fratricidal conflict and cruelty, breaks the divine law and inflicts upon the creatures of this earth the pangs of suffering and death.

In the little town of McGregor, Ia., a Mrs. Freeman and little daughter fell ill. A member of the medical profession was called, who doctored both patients, they steadily grew worse until their condition became desperate. A Mrs. Post, a practitioner of a non-drugging system was called

in, and under her treatment both patients rapidly recovered. When the healing came to the knowledge of the medical doctors they had a warrant sworn out for the arrest of Mrs. Post, for practicing a cure on one Mrs. Freeman and others, contrary to the statutes of Iowa. You see by this that it is a medical department and not a department of health that the doctors are after. How long could the Galilean Prophet and His students practice this healing art under these tyrannical and un-American laws without getting into jail. How fortunate they came before the days of the medical trust.

The medical men of Vermont tell us that before the Vermont legislature of 1912 there will come a law that every doctor can approve.

Do we want them to pass a law compelling us to have all our cattle tested? Do we want them to pass a law compelling every animal bought or sold to be tested? Do you want a law passed giving the doctors power to enter your homes and to innoculate your families with any of the various serums? If not, then I appeal to all broad-minded, liberty-loving citizens to stand determinedly against the stealthy and dangerous encroachment of a well-organized monopoly, arrogant and intelligent as it is selfish and avaricious, which in its own interest, is striking at the dearest and most sacred rights of every free and intelligent American citizen.

Since writing the above I have received government statistics from Japan. The law was still further strengthened in 1905, compelling every citizen to be vaccinated every five years. This was followed in 1908 by the worst epidemic of smallpox known in recent years. Upon investigation I find wherever the people are thoroughly and frequently vaccinated tuberculosis becomes a scourge and smallpox much more common and the death rate many, many times higher.

F. E. Simpson,

Glover, Vt.