

end of ten days a secondary culture is made by the attending physician or the District Medical Inspector, to determine whether the diphtheria bacilli are still present in the throat, and subsequent cultures are made at short intervals until the examinations show that the organisms are no longer present. The case is then referred for disinfection, a detailed statement being left at the house by the Medical Inspector in charge, to guide the disinfectors as to the course which shall be followed.

Every case of diphtheria which comes to the knowledge of the Department is recorded in a card index, according to the number of the house and the street on which it occurs. In this index envelopes are used in place of cards, and in each envelope, representing always one case, are placed all of the data relating to the first and subsequent cultures, and results, and as each case is recorded it is at the same time plotted on a sectional map of New York City drawn to scale, showing every house lot in the city. This platting is done by conventional signs, so that it is possible at a glance to determine the grouping and distribution of cases in different parts of the city; the number of cases occurring in any given house in the city, during the last four years since this method has been in use, and the date when reported. It is also possible in a moment, by reference to the yearly card index, to find all the information in relation to each case which the Department possesses.

A special corps of inspectors is assigned to the administration of diphtheria antitoxin, and on request, one of these inspectors will visit a person suffering from diphtheria in any part of the city, day or night, and administer diphtheria antitoxin, under the supervision of the attending physician. When the patients are too poor to have an attending physician, the inspectors will supervise their removal to the hospitals. These inspectors are also prepared, at the request of the attending physician, to perform intubation in laryngeal diphtheria. It is the usual course, where antitoxin is administered by an inspector, to immunize all members of the family who have been exposed to the disease. Diphtheria antitoxin has also been largely employed for the immunization of the inmates of public institutions, especially children, when diphtheria has appeared. This is the ordinary routine, and in every instance during the last two-and-a-half years it has been possible to quickly stamp out diphtheria in institutions by this process of immunization.

As already stated, diphtheria antitoxin is furnished on request free of charge to all public institutions, and may be obtained by physicians at any of the one hundred depots where it is on sale, free of