

the fact that the cause of death is not the only point to be assured of, what led up to the death is an all important point to elicit by a coroner's inquest. The North West Territories are evidently ahead of us in legal procedure.

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### MISCELLANEOUS.

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#### HOW ONE PHYSICIAN VACCINATES.

Dr. John B. Read, an old practitioner of fifty years' experience and County Health Officer for Tuscaloosa county, Ala., has made public his formula for vaccination, which he says has never known to fail. The process is simple. Take a fine needle and thread, with silk or cotton thread, and moisten about one-fourth of an inch of the thread with vaccine matter or virus; then draw the needle through the skin until that portion of the thread containing the virus is passed under the skin; then clip both ends of the thread, leaving the portion with the virus under the skin. Dr. Read says the idea originated with him in his early practice, and has never been made public before.

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#### INFECTIOUS NATURE OF ACUTE RHEUMATISM.

The infectious nature of rheumatism is shown, according to Jaccoud (*Journ. de Med. et de Chir. Prat.*), by the case of an infant born while the mother was suffering from rheumatism. Twelve hours after birth the child was attacked by a fever and swelling of the joints. These signs disappeared under salicylate of sodium at the end of eight days. In a second case the mother was suffering from polyarticular rheumatism, and the infant became effected.

Instead of as formerly, examining bacteriologically each water supply once a fortnight, we are now examining samples from each water supply daily. This is therefore a much more severe test of the adequate nature of the filtration from day to day, and the mean results of our microbial estimations cannot properly compare with results obtained at periods of a fortnight apart. Further, the samples we collect from the clear water wells of the companies are im-

eight hours, when the colonies are counted. Such a severe examination of the process of filtration at once enables us to warn the companies if any of the filter beds are working abnormally, and already we are in a position to say that the average bacteriological quality of all the London waters has been greatly improved since the commencement of this year.

We are, Sir,

Your Obedient Servants,  
WILLIAM CROOKES,  
JAMES DEWAAR.

Formaldehyde for the Disinfection of Apartments, etc.—The following methods are recommended as the result of experiments carried on at the Stockholm Hygienic Institute:—1. Spraying.—The walls, furniture, etc., are thoroughly sprayed with a two per cent solution of formaldehyde, and the room is then kept closed for twenty-four hours. From 60 to 70 cc. of this solution are sufficient for every square metre of surface. 2. Evaporation from sheets.—Sheets impregnated with a solution of 500 grammes of calcium chloride in one litre of a thirty-five per cent formaldehyde solution are hung up in the rooms, which are then closed for twenty-four hours. Two square metres of sheeting are sufficient for eight cubic metres; one cubic metre requires from 60 to 70 cc. of the above solution. Formaldehyde is particularly useful for treating furs and books, and the spray method of treating dwellings is quite inexpensive. Care must be had, however, during its use. The eyes should be protected by suitable glasses, the mouth and nose by masks of cotton, and the hands by means of gloves or a coating of vaseline.—*Niles Englund (Pharm. Centralb., xxxvii., p. 305).*

The Treatment of Chlorosis.—In the *Revue de Therapeutique Medico-Chirurgicale* is a paper by Huchard upon the treatment of chlorosis. He points out that these chlorotic cases can be divided into three classes: Those in which iron is absolutely useless; those in which it is fairly valuable; and those in which it is an absolute necessity. The cases in which it is useless are those which have been deprived of fresh air