

appearance of health. Dairies must be inspected and diseased cows removed from the list of those giving milk for sale. Nothing less will save the children.

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### CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

In the treatment of diphtheria there are now no voices raised against the value of the antitoxine treatment. It is with equal certainty that a great step onwards can be recorded in the treatment of that terrible malady, cerebro-spinal meningitis.

It is true that this disease is not so common as diphtheria, and the life saving power of Flexner's serum may not come into use so often as the serum for diphtheria; but it should be borne in mind that there are strong reasons for thinking that cerebro-spinal meningitis is steadily on the increase.

A number of lists of cases treated by Flexner's serum are now on record.

Few diseases have appealed more to the sympathies of the medical man than cerebro-spinal meningitis, a disease that was differentiated as a specific unity about a hundred years ago.

A few years ago Professor Flexner gave us the serum that is known by his name. Since then many cases have been treated with it.

Flexner's own record of cases now numbers somewhere about 322 with a recovery rate of over 75 per cent., and a greatly reduced number of recoveries with some impairment to the health of the patients. It became very apparent in the treatment of these cases that the earlier the serum is used the better the results, both as to mortality and sequelæ.

Dr. Dunn reports a series of cases with a death rate of 19 per cent. as against the former mortality of 80 per cent. He recommends that 20 to 30 cc. of cerebro-spinal fluid be withdrawn and the same quantity of the serum replace this. No bad symptoms followed the injections. He states that the serum is not antitoxic but antibactericidal. He is very strong in his praises of the serum.

Dr. K. Koplick, of New York, reports 13 cases with two deaths. He draws off cerebro-spinal fluid whenever there is evidence of pressure and replaces the fluid by the serum.

Dr. Frank T. Fulton, of Providence, gives his experience with 22 cases. His death rate was 20 per cent. He injects about 30 ccm. The injections are given each time cerebro-spinal fluid is withdrawn.

Drs. Ladd and Sladen are staunch advocates of the serum treatment. It does no harm if the meningitis be not of the meningococcic type. When used early in the disease it is almost a specific. Some cases call for a large amount of the serum and repeated injections.