

examination showed rise in pulse and temperature, with patches on both tonsils. Undoubtedly we had diphtheria to deal with, and administered one thousand units of antitoxin to each of the three patients. As our supply of antitoxin was limited we did not give any to the rest of the family that night as immunizing doses. We then visited the other house affected and found that two out of a family of five children and father and mother, had the disease with symptoms similar to those cases previously described. To these we also gave one thousand units each, which exhausted our supply, so we were not able to try and immunize the rest of the family exposed to the contagion of diphtheria. On the morning following I returned to the family first mentioned with a supply of antitoxin and found that two more of the family, both boys, had been stricken down with the disease during the night. To these I gave one thousand units each, and an immunizing dose of two hundred and fifty units to each of the remaining three children. Found not much change in the condition of the three treated the night before, but on my visit the same evening my three patients, the little boy and two girls, were much improved. In all these cases the temperature was normal, while the pulse did not exceed 80 per minute. The little boy was breathing quietly and able to take nourishment. The following morning I found the little fellow sitting up in bed, and wanting to get down on the floor to play. All the rest were doing nicely, and no new cases. In fact, in all these cases in this house, the depression so marked in diphtheria was replaced in one or two days by a feeling of wellbeing which was surprising. Convalescence in all these cases was very rapid. I kept the house quarantined for two weeks, and no new cases developing the house was thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. Just seven days from the time of cleaning the house I was again called and found that the father and two others of the remaining children had contracted the disease. All three of these patients had assisted in cleaning the house. To them I also gave one thousand units each, with the result that in less than twenty-four hours in all three cases the temperature and pulse became normal, convalescence uneventful. From the preceding it will be seen that all of the family suffered from the disease, except the housekeeper and the baby, a child one year old. The baby had been given an immunizing dose. The housekeeper, aged about twenty-four years, had not received any.

As to the second family mentioned, on my visit following the administration of the antitoxin, I found in both patients a normal temperature and pulse, but they did not seem to rally from the prostration caused by the diphtheria poison. I might just here remark that the frame house occupied by this family was situated in a hollow, and in a very unsanitary condition. As the bacillus of diphtheria very soon dies when exposed to sunlight I always endeavor to have my patients placed in a large airy room facing either the east or south, but in this particular instance I was unable to get such favorable surroundings. I repeated the one thousand units in the little girl, but after lingering two or three days, suffering all the time from paralysis of the throat, so that deglutition was almost impossible, she passed away. During this time two others of the family had also contracted the disease and received one thousand antitoxin units. These made a good recovery, while the little boy of the second family, who was first taken, developed a large tumor on the left side of his neck over the submaxillary gland. Symptoms did not appear dangerous as the child was eating and sleeping very well. I visited the house one evening about nine o'clock and he was apparently progressing favorably. During the night he awoke and asked for a drink, and on being raised up choked and fell back dead. Whether he died from