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VACCINATION.*

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THE Vaccination Act demands that a child shall, within three months of birth, be taken to the medical practitioner for the purpose of being vaccinated, and the practitioner is required to vaccinate the child. Upon the eighth day following the vaccination, the child shall again be taken to the practitioner by whom the operation was performed, in order that he may by inspection ascertain the result of the operation. If successful upon inspection, the practitioner shall give a certificate to that effect.

Fortunately in this matter modern science has developed nothing leading us to the belief that the law of thirty years ago calls for a practice no longer tenable. Bovine vaccine and glycerinized lymph are capable of producing the old typical, clinical phenomena caused by the use of humanized lymph, and we have a right to claim the following as representing our beliefs in the matter of vaccination and the part it plays as a prophylactic against small-pox until confirmatory evidence to the contrary has been brought.

It is hardly necessary to say that the whole value of vaccination depends upon its ability to protect either against infection with small-pox or to modify the virulence of an attack, should it occur. That such results have followed vaccination, the history of a hundred years has proved. These two points in the experi-

*Abstract from quarterly Report, Ontario Provincial Board of Health, April 26th, 1901.