

number of instances have occurred where vaccination performed with an inert lymph have failed to protect against the disease.

The interesting question naturally arises—Why, with these well established facts, have we seen probably half the first cases in the outbreaks of the past year and a half diagnosed as chickenpox, such as in several municipalities in Essex, in Toronto Junction, in Port Arthur, in Sudbury Hospital, in Massey, in Renfrew Hospital, in McNab Township, in Lucan, in London Township, and so on?

Setting aside the case that while many practitioners of the present day, never having seen smallpox, in many instances do not expect it, and in other instances, even if suspicious, are slow to create alarm by calling a comparatively mild eruption smallpox; yet the fact remains that smallpox has always been a very difficult disease to diagnose. Only a year ago the staff of the Winnipeg Hospital were deceived, and a death certificate of purpura hemorrhagica was given to a case of hemorrhagic smallpox, which was seen subsequent to death by the health officer, who diagnosed it, but too late to prevent a serious outbreak arising from the mistake; and similarly, last year, a corpse due to smallpox was unsuspectingly placed in the dissecting room of the Detroit Medical College, causing a serious outbreak. On the other hand, such cases as the following occur. In a lumber camp, whence several mild cases had been sent out to the Sudbury camp, others exposed remained. Two of these men who were friends and worked and slept together, sickened at the same time, and both with equally prominent initial symptoms of smallpox. One developed an abundant rash, while the other practically had none at all. Variations in the cutaneous inflammations and eruptions are so well known in scarlatina, measles, Rotheln, chickenpox, and vaccinia, that there is nothing unusual in finding this in smallpox—the differences having to do perhaps as much with the temperament of the patient as with the type of the disease, as may be seen in the difference in the arms of a series of persons of about the same age, vaccinated by the same operator and with the same lymph.

The variations in type of smallpox have been illustrated in the outbreaks in every camp and district. Thus the history of the family of F—K—, in Renfrew, illustrates this: