

not "necessary" for children to have measles, and if they can be saved from having it until they are five years of age they are not liable to have it at all.

Measles begins with symptoms of a severe "cold," watering of the eyes, running of the nose, pain in forehead, and irritable cough. At this stage, even before the rash appears, the disease is extremely "catching."

Do not wait until the patient is dangerously ill before calling in a doctor.

Isolate the patient as early as the disease is suspected.

Keep him in bed as long as there is any fever, being careful to protect him from draughts and chills. The latter precaution should be continued for some time after apparent recovery. The patient's chest should be specially protected by flannel or cotton wool.

Watch all children in the family, and isolate them as soon as they show any signs of illness.

The great danger in measles is the tendency of the cold to spread to the lungs, so all exposure to cold must be avoided.

No child from an infected house should be allowed to go to school, or to associate with the children of other families, until the premises, etc., have been disinfected, as measles is easily conveyed by the clothing of persons, not themselves attacked by the disease.

One of the most necessary of warnings given in the document is that which indicates that it is not "necessary" for children to have the disease, inasmuch as it is a very general belief that the normal child is bound to have measles, and the fact that this is also accompanied by the belief that the sooner a child has it the better, is no doubt responsible for a considerable proportion of the deaths due to the disease, which is most fatal to children between one and two years of age.

Such circulars as that quoted above cannot but do good, especially as suggesting certain of the more obvious precautions necessary for preventing the spread of the ailment after it has been discovered to have laid hold on a patient

Typhoid in Tasmania.

There are some parts of Tasmania where typhoid has given considerable trouble, and the Chief Medical Officer does not

hesitate to make the fly and kindred insects the principal agents in spreading infection, but reports that there are other causes, especially in mining districts, where sanitation is of the very crudest form. At present, he says, there is considerable difficulty in dealing with new mining fields with a view to prevent them becoming hotbeds of infection. The haphazard growth of a settlement under which each resident is a law unto himself, the question of the permanency of the field or of rating, besides the absence or direct supervision, are factors causing the usual insanitary conditions, not to mention the carelessness of some of the miners themselves in the disposal of excrement and the selection of water supplies. As the police generally have the issuing of occupation licenses, the co-operation of the Commissioner of the Police has been sought and given. The sanitary condition of the hotels are thereby brought into line with those in other districts, and the local constable assists in keeping the residents mindful of the necessity of observing sanitary requirements as far as practicable. The need for this is very real. In one outbreak it was found that most of the victims had taken food at a particular hotel, and that this place obtained its water supply from a well near two unused cesspits. Flies were also noticed travelling between the foul muck-heaps of the yard and the places where food was kept. Once get a typhoid "carrier" in such a district as this, and there is no limit as to the possibility of infection. The carelessness of human beings has often been the cause of epidemic in places less favored than Tasmania, and the same reason appears to prevail in that country, held up as one of the few perfect health spots of the world.

Native "Compounds" in South Africa.

A few years ago the newspapers had many stories of the awful condition of the "compounds" in the South African gold and diamond fields. They were dirty, unwholesome, insanitary, and everything that was bad. But time has brought its changes, and as municipal life has become established considerable improvement has been made. In his annual report the Chief Sanitary Inspector at Krugersdorp tells us that in 1910 a radical change has taken place for the better in connection with the