

Milk Does Not Carry Infantile Paralysis.

The infantile paralysis epidemic of last summer in New York City was not caused by contaminated sources of milk supply or other foods, nor was it communicated by lower animals or insects or by clothing or other extraneous objects. That is the opinion expressed by the special committee of physicians appointed to aid the Department of Health in combating the disease, on the offer of the Rockefeller Foundation to finance the research work.

The report, which was submitted to Mayor Mitchell, gives the record of a study of 2,496 cases diagnosed by the Department as poliomyelitis, out of a total of 9,023 cases. It was found that males apparently develop the disease more frequently than females. This is the consensus of opinion among foreign medical authorities also. In more than 10 per cent. of the cases visited in that city there was conclusive evidence that infection was through personal contact with previous cases.

The fewest number of cases occurred among nursing children, and the greatest number were among children receiving various forms of cow's milk, and by far the majority of these were using bottled pasteurized milk in which no microbes of the disease could be presumed to exist. Several cases of supposed milk infection disclosed upon investigation no evidence that the disease was so carried.

The following conclusions are drawn by the committee:

1. Infantile paralysis is communicated by personal contact.

2. Slight and non-paralytic cases are the most frequent sources of infection. As these cases arouse no suspicion, others come more in contact with them.

3. The disease usually develops from three to ten days after exposure.

4. Previous good health does not give immunity from attack.

Points cited as of most practical importance to parents are as follows:

Children who are ill should be kept away from others until it is definitely certain the ill child has not a communicable disease. If one's own child develops suspicious symptoms the child should be kept away from others until it is known he has not a communicable disease. Early diagnosis of suspected cases and prompt isolation of the patient are held to be of the greatest importance in preventing spread of the disease.—From "American Cheese-maker."

Japan Buys Percherons.

Koiwai Farm, at Morioka, Japan, has just purchased five Percheron mares and a Percheron stallion, which will be exported to Japan this month. Makota Agata, who purchased these horses for the farm mentioned, states that there are some Percherons already in Japan, which were brought there from France, but so far as he knows these are the first to be purchased in the United States. He states that there are many good-sized farms in Japan which are being devoted to the rearing of Indian corn, oats, wheat and barley, and that the Japanese owners have found it desirable to work these farms with gang-plows, discs, seeders and other labor-saving machinery well known to American farmers. Most of the horses in Japan are too small to handle this heavy machinery, and for this reason Percherons are desired in order that the small horses may be increased in size. It has already been found that the grade Percherons produced by crossing Percheron sires on native horses are more efficient than small horses in their farm work. Mr. Agata is of the opinion that there will be a considerable increase in the production of draft horses in Japan within the next few years. It is likely that this importation will be the forerunner of numerous shipments in the future. The Percherons included in this importation were bought from six separate Percheron breeders in Ohio, during October, and include some well-known eastern prize-winners, the winner of the Eastern Percheron Breeders' Futurity Stake in fillies. Shipments of Percherons have heretofore been made to Honolulu, but this is the first exportation to the far East. It will be of special interest to horsemen because of the possibilities it suggests.

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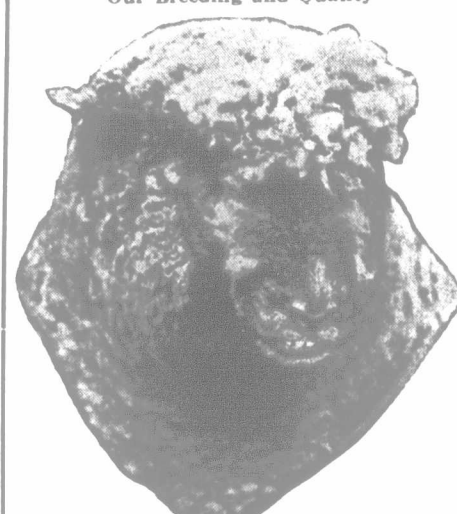
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