

tis; in both in increased susceptibility to infections; in both a tendency to constipation; in both a tendency to dermatitis herpetiformis. Again, during menstruation there is a sensitization of the nervous system.

An hypothesis which will explain these facts is that the endometrium supplies a sensitizing agent which readily liberates phosphine. The hypothesis would also explain the character of the lochia, such as offensive odor, and the presence of gas in cases of puerperal fever due to infection with the colon bacillus.

The foregoing is a brief statement of my work in connection with phosphine. If you are interested, I shall be pleased to supplement these statements with a more detailed discussion. In this connection I have attempted to condense the subject within the limits of a letter.

Yours truly,

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SWEDISH RED CROSS HEALTH CAMPAIGN.

The League of Red Cross Societies has received a communication from the Central Committee of the Swedish Red Cross to the effect that the Swedish Red Cross Society has asked its government for a subsidy of one million crowns, in order that it may take a more active part in the campaign against the deplorable material conditions and dangerous epidemics prevailing more especially in Eastern Europe, and which constitute a menace to the entire continent. The General Assembly of the Swedish Red Cross, realizing that the situation demanded a prompt and favorable reply to the appeals for help issued in the stricken countries, and by various welfare organizations, without waiting for the decision of the Riksdag, has resolved, without further delay, to draw upon the available funds of the Society, and to place an advance of 100,000 crowns at the disposal of the Central Committee, for the immediate relief of the most severely tried regions.

The communication referred to appears to indicate that the action of the Swedish Red Cross will in the first place be directed toward those countries most easily accessible to Sweden, namely, Russia—more especially Petrograd—the Mission advancing as and when the interior districts become more settled. Similarly with regard to Austria, assistance to the Central Bureau in Vienna, for epidemic campaign in Eastern Europe.

In reply to this interesting communication, and while pointing out that the Central Bureau in Vienna, under the chairmanship of a member of the International Committee of the Red Cross of Geneva and