INFLUENZAL MENINGITIS. ANTI-INFLUENZAL SERUM

Some four years ago Dr. Simon Flexner perfected the antimeningitis serum which now is the recognized treatment for acute cerebro-spinal meningitis, and has in its use reduced the awful mortality in that disease from 80% to nearly 20%. In his goodness of heart and generosity he was anxious to spread this blessing everywhere. For this purpose he chose various centres from whence the distribution should take place, and amongst these, we are glad to announce, was the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.

He has also been working for some years upon the meningitis caused by influenza, and has at last succeeded in perfecting a serum of undoubted value. This discovery he has again, with characteristic kindness, immediately given into the hands of the medical profession, and the only remuneration he demands is a full clinical report of the cases in which it is used. The benefit of this serum also has been given to the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, and can be obtained upon application. Moreover, the Board of that institution will, at the request of any physician, send one of its laboratory physicians to make the subdural puncture, give a thorough bacteriological examination of the fluid, and administer the spinal injection in suitable cases. This, we feel sure, will be a boon to any physician not having the necessary time or technique at his disposal.

DR. FRIEDMANN AND MEDICAL SERVICE

Editor Journal,—Your editorial in to-day's issue (Ottawa Journal) concerning Dr. Friedmann's alleged discovery for the cure of tuberculosis is illuminating, if not convincing.

From time immemorial it has been held to be quite unethical to convert into money for personal gain or aggrandizement a real scientific discovery that will be a lasting benefit against disease or deformity. Such discoveries by real pioneers have always been held to be the property of the profession to assist them in their daily work against the ills that human flesh is heir to. Indeed, we may go so far as to say that this privilege, whether it be in the nature of cure or prevention, is the living glory of the medical profession, and has done more in the ages past to strengthen the bonds between the profession and their lay brethren than any other