

Revaccination and its periodic repetition renew the complete temporary immunity.

Scruples on the part of the state against compulsory vaccination are weak, since vaccination is useful to the individual and indirectly protects the community.

Compulsory vaccination of children is not only a desideratum, but an ethical duty, since children, as yet without the power of deciding for themselves, should not be given over arbitrarily to their elders, and thereby eventually become the prey of smallpox.

The opposition to compulsory vaccination demonstrates that the opponents do not possess a mature understanding of one of the most important questions in hygiene.

In the conscious security of the body against the threatening assault of infection, lies not only one of the principal problems of hygiene, but an actual problem of human culture.

*Summary by Drs. Welch and Schamberg.*

Referring to the value of vaccination, Welch & Schamberg, of Philadelphia, in writing upon the subject of smallpox, state, "We know of no eminent physician who is not convinced of the efficacy of vaccination. Those physicians who have had a large practical experience with smallpox are the most ardent advocates of vaccination, for they have had the best opportunity of noting the behaviour of vaccinated individuals in the presence of smallpox. The few physicians who are found in the ranks of the anti-vaccinationists are usually men without practical experience in smallpox; they argue with statistics (often wittingly or unwittingly distorted) and not with facts derived from personal observation. These persons have in various countries banded themselves together to antagonize the practice of vaccination and to oppose compulsory enforcement."

"We prefer to look upon these persons as *misguided*, rather than regard them in a less charitable light," and these authorities conclude as follows: "Anti-vaccination propaganda have caused many innocent victims to be consigned by smallpox to a premature grave," and in this, as in their preceding statements, the writer, after sixteen years of practical experience with the disease, fully and heartily concurs.

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*Latest Words of Prof. Metchnikoff.*

Prof. Elie Metchnikoff, Director of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, and successor to its great founder in his recent work on "Immunity in Infective Diseases," (1905). Speaking of Protective vaccination, thus expresses himself, and referring to Germany.

"Compulsory vaccination was introduced there more than a quarter of a century ago (1874) and statistical information has been collected with great care. With the exception of a slight increase during the period from 1879 to 1885, smallpox has diminished progressively since the proclamation of the new law, and has become so rare that in 1897 there were only 5 fatal cases in the whole German Empire. In the space of 13 years (1886-1898), in a population which embraces two-fifths of the total inhabitants of the German Empire, there were altogether five