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EDITORIAL

ERYSIPELAS IN GENERAL HOSPITALS.

Quite recently the question has been raised in the public press as to the admission of cases of erysipelas into the wards of a general hospital. The subject comes up through a letter of Rev. Canon Ingles, who had tried to secure admission for a person suffering with this disease, and found much difficulty in securing the same.

Erysipelas has been regarded as a surgical disease, but, for good reasons, should not be admitted into a surgical ward. But there are medical wards where the patient have no wounds. We hold that cases of erysipelas may safely be admitted into such.

We would ask the medical profession to recall their cases of erysipelas, with the view of determining in their minds how many instances there were of the disease attacking other members of the family or nurses in attendance. We think the answer would be almost universally in the negative.

We do not hesitate to state that there would be no danger in the admission of such patients into medical wards. The treatment is such as would suit such a ward.

General hospitals may fall into disfavor by laying down rules that place the sick at great disadvantage, and do no good to the institution. A hospital is for the care of the sick, and one cannot well imagine a sick person more in need of proper care than one who is ill with an attack of say facial erysipelas. Care may be carried to the extreme limit of becoming foolish fear.

FIRE-PROOF HOSPITALS.

Once more we return to this subject. Quite recently there was a fire in the Aged Women's Home in Toronto, and about \$15,000 worth