

Many people held that vaccination was injurious to the young, but from a recent article from J. M. McKenzie, L.R.C.P.E., Medical Health Officer, Kirkby, in Ashfield, which appeared in the *British Medical Journal*, August 15th, 1903, it was shown that in the years 1900, 1901, 1902, 8.49 of the children vaccinated had died, as against 16.01 of those not vaccinated, showing that the death rate was almost double among those not vaccinated.

The death rates in various diseases were discussed, and it was shown that almost invariably the statistics were in favor of vaccination.

From a table given in the article by Dr. McKenzie, the following summary of the three years is taken, showing the causes of death among 706 vaccinated and 281 unvaccinated children:

	Death rate per 1,000.	
	Vaccinated.	Unvaccinated.
Convulsions	2.83	10.67
Pneumonia and bronchitis.....	36.83	39.57
Marasmus	5.66	39.57
Meningitis.....	8.50	4.19
Diarrhea	14.16	35.59
Laryngitis	2.83
Pertussis	2.83	7.19
Hydrocephalus.....	1.46	3.59
Dentition	4.25	3.59
Measles	4.25
Tabes mesenterica	7.19
Congenital heart disease.....	7.19
Erysipelas.....	1.46

In commenting on the unlooked for and startling facts revealed in the above figures, and especially in the total result of 16.01 deaths per 1,000 amongst the unvaccinated, as against 8.49 amongst the vaccinated, Dr. McKenzie thought that amongst the reasons to be advanced for this favorable condition amongst the vaccinated, the chief one is that the products of the vaccine process have a beneficial and modifying influence on most of the other diseases. It is more than likely that the children of extremists and agitators—persons of neurotic tendencies—would be among the unvaccinated, but this would hardly account for the great difference.

In addition to the above class of statistics, an article in the *Medical Annual* was read, which stated that since 1884, 2,198 persons had been employed in the London smallpox hospitals. Of these only seventeen took the disease, of which thirteen had not been revaccinated, and four had never been vaccinated. Not one of the 2,198 who had been properly vaccinated had contracted smallpox.

Reference was made to the overwhelming mass of statistics