

**Amputation of the Thigh Under Hyoscin-Morphin-Cactin Anesthesia.**—Henry G. Ebert, Marine Hospital Service, U.S.A. in *The Military Surgeon*, May, 1907. The following clipping, which we take from *The American Journal of Surgery*, June, 1907, is deserving of the attention of surgeons, who in a time of emergency may be short-handed: Ebert reports the successful use of the Abbott hyoscin-morphin-cactin combination as a general anesthetic in an amputation of the thigh in the upper one-third. The tablets used contained hyoscin, gr. 1-100; morphin, gr. 1-4, and cactin, gr. 1-67. Injections were given two hours, one hour, and half an hour before operation. Anesthesia was ideal and complete throughout operation and for several hours afterward. No ill effects whatever were noticed at any time. Muscular relaxation was not so complete as in ether or chloroform anesthesia so that after the operation no subsequent contraction of flaps took place and there was no more tension on the stitches afterward than at the time they were put in. Ebert thinks this may prove to be the ideal anesthetic for field use and emergency work where one may be short handed, as it does away entirely with the anesthetist and the space and care necessary in the transportation of ether or chloroform. The absence of inconvenient after-effects is a most valuable feature of this preparation in field work. Of equal utility in active service is the possibility of securing complete rest and anesthesia in cases of injuries too extensive to permit of immediate operative attentions, such as in visceral injuries of the abdomen, chest or head.

**Enforcement of Vaccination Among the Employes of Business Houses in Chicago.**—In Chicago, the large down-town business houses are requiring vaccination certificates from their employes, as a condition of employment; the smaller places are less careful in this respect. Two moderately large business houses in the down-town district came near to the closing point, May 15th, 1907, because of smallpox among their clerks. The Chief Medical Inspector of the Chicago Health Department remarks on this subject: "It is not good business sense for a firm to take the risk of having their business place closed on account of smallpox, when it can be avoided by requiring that all their employes furnish a certificate of vaccination. As already said, certificates of vaccination are required as a condition of employment in all the larger places in the city, and it would be wise for the smaller houses to follow their example.