

upwards, he or she may select the medical or surgical attendant, whether a member of the staff or not.

The staff reserves the right to attend no patient or class of patients except those sent in under the certificate of Medical Health Officer. By this means a full measure of responsibility is maintained for the proper care of these cases.

In the event of an operation becoming necessary a consultation must be held with some member of the staff, and some member of the staff must be present when the operation is performed. This rule applies to a member of the staff just as much as to one who is not a member of the staff. The Western Hospital thus has the open door system in force.

VACCINATION VERSUS SMALLPOX.

One hundred years of experience with the protective power of vaccination has proven beyond the shadow of a doubt that it can prevent the spread of smallpox; but that hundred years of the constant victory of science over disease has not yet compelled belief from all the public. Indeed, there are still many who claim to be educated, and who oppose vaccination. Such an eminent scientist as Sir Alfred Russell Wallace places himself on record as being opposed to vaccination. It is well to ask why.

In the first place a few medical practitioners are not yet convinced that vaccination does protect against smallpox. It is much to be regretted that such should be the case, and can only be explained in two ways: They have not taken the trouble to look into the subject, and are, therefore, ignorant as to the merits of the simple operation. The other reason is that they are catering to the sympathies of those who oppose the practice. This is a base prostitution of science to secure a clientele.

In the second place some scientists have not given this subject careful study. Sir Alfred Wallace is an eminent scientist, but this does not qualify him to speak on a medical subject, and especially on such a complicated one as that of immunity. Nevertheless, opinion is influenced by it much in the same way as the testimonial of some titled devine would influence public opinion in favor of some useless, or even harmful nostrum.

In the third place there are a certain number who know nothing about the subject, and cannot, therefore, see how the producing of a sore on one's arm can prevent or modify the course of any disease twenty years later. They see or hear of occasionally a rather severely