

1,000 births while in 1915 the total was 54.32 per cent. or 543.2 of every 1,000 births. This shows an increase of 39 male births in every 1,000 male and female births recorded in Toronto during the past four months as compared with the corresponding period of 1913.

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## MEDICAL PREPARATIONS

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### PHYLACOGEN IN PNEUMONIA.

Perhaps no disease has baffled medical treatment to a greater extent than has lobar pneumonia. It must be conceded that as yet there is no true specific for the disease. The mortality from this type of pneumonia is high as compared with that of most other infectious diseases. In view of these facts, any agent that nearly approaches the specific in lobar pneumonia should be welcomed by the medical profession. Pneumonia Phylacogen is believed to merit that distinction.

In the use of pneumonia phylacogen, as in that of the various other phylacogens, observance of certain details of administration may have an important bearing on the results. The product may be administered either subcutaneously or intravenously. The first dose should invariably be given subcutaneously. Injections should be made slowly—as slowly as possible, in fact. When injections are made hypodermatically the needle should not be allowed to enter the superficial fascia or muscular tissue. Certain patients, it has been found, do not absorb phylacogen, when subcutaneously administered, with sufficient rapidity to produce the desired effect. Such cases will usually respond promptly to small doses given intravenously.

Large initial doses should be avoided. One Cc. will usually be suitable for the initial subcutaneous dose, and for debilitated persons it is well not to exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  Cc. The increase in dose should be gradual—usually  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 Cc. per diem, depending upon the effect of the previous dose upon temperature and pulse rate, and only when these have again become normal should another injection be made.

The initial intravenous dose, which should always be preceded by one or more doses subcutaneously, should not be more than  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  Cc. (say 2 to 4 minims). Subsequently the dose may be increased by  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  Cc. each day, according to the general indications, avoiding if possible the production of a marked constitutional reaction.

Pneumonia Phylacogen, which is supplied in 10-Cc. rubber-stoppered glass vials, is preserved with an antiseptic, and, with ordinary care, will not deteriorate as a consequence of exposure due to opening the vial. None of the material need therefore be wasted.