

EXTRACTS STRENGTHEN IMPOVERISHED BLOOD

A new treatment for impoverished blood was submitted by Dr. Chauncey D. Leake, of the University of Wisconsin, for the criticism of scientists at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Leake finds that preparations of spleen and red bone marrow will stimulate the production of blood in rabbits, dogs and normal human beings, frequently to such an extent that an increase is noticed within one day in the actual count of the red corpuscles in the blood stream, and also in the amount of hemoglobin or coloring matter which they contain.

"This fact has been applied successfully to the treatment of anemia," Dr. Leake said. The extracts will make good the deficiency in red blood cells which is characteristic of anemic patients, it appears.

"The increased production of red cells is greater when the two substances as taken in combination than when they are taken alone," stated Dr. Leake. "The blood returns to its former condition, when the treatment is stopped. Experiments indicate that the effect is due both to stimulation of blood production, and to the fact that the combined spleen and marrow extracts increase the resistance of the red blood cells to destructive agencies in the body."

Success of the treatment is not dependent upon injections, as similar beneficial results are obtained when the preparations are taken through the mouth.

Dr. Leake warns that his discovery holds out no hope for the victims of pernicious anemia, however. "No successful treatment for this disease has been found," he admitted. "It is still fatal. The spleen and marrow extracts are a successful remedy for 'secondary' anemias, however. The blood of patients which has become weakened as a result of an attack of an infectious disease or other pathogenic condition, can be bolstered up by the use of the preparation until such time as the body is able to take care of itself."

NEW DANISH TUBERCULOSIS TREATMENT TO BE TESTED BY GOVERNMENT

A thorough test of the new treatment for tuberculosis devised by Professor Møllgaard of Copenhagen will be made under the auspices of the U. S. Public Health Service before it will be available for distribution in the United States.

The new method of treating tuberculosis was put forth by Professor Møllgaard of the Royal Veterinary College of Copenhagen who has called the preparation used "Sanocrysin". The material used consists of a preparation of gold in combination with thiosulphuric acid known as auro-thiosulphate. Probably the sodium salt of this compound is what is used. On introduction into an individual this substance produces a rather severe reaction evidenced by nephritis, fever, skin rashes, and shock. This is interpreted by the Danish scientist as evidence of the solution of tubercle bacilli in the sick individual as the same reaction with the same dose does not occur in normal individuals. To offset the severity of this reaction and in a measure to control it, Professor Møllgaard makes use of an anti-tuberculosis serum, which is prepared by the Danish State Serum Institute, by injecting dead tubercle bacilli into either calves or horses.

After proving to his satisfaction that the cure was valuable in animals, Professor Møllgaard arranged with Dr. Secher of the Municipal Hospital in Copenhagen to test the cure out on human cases of tuberculosis. The report of this

clinical investigation of its value was recently made in Copenhagen and the reports were favorable as to its value in certain types of pulmonary tuberculosis but doubtful as to its value in surgical tuberculosis and severe cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. Arrangements were then made for the testing of the material in England but reports of these experiments have not yet been made public.

An American pharmaceutical company has become interested in the distribution of this material in America but in as much as part of the cure is a serum it is necessary, as provided by law in the interest of safeguarding the public health, that this new cure have the approval of the United States public Health Service before it can be sold in the United States. The Public Health Service, through its Hygienic Laboratory, has arranged with the best equipped scientific men in this field to carry out a series of animal experiments and has arranged for the study of the cure in clinical cases in America under the direction of a Danish physician who has used it in Denmark. These studies are being pushed with the greatest rapidity but not until the cure has been shown to be successful will it be available for distribution.

The Danish treatment recalls efforts of the great German bacteriologist, Koch, discoverer of the tuberculosis bacillus, who tried the double chloride of gold and sodium in the treatment of this disease. Thirty or more years ago two Detroit physicians, Drs. Gibbes and Shurley, also advocated the use of a double chloride of gold and sodium in tuberculosis cases and many successful treatments were reported. American physicians are intensely interested in the close resemblance between the Copenhagen product and that used years ago in this country.

LONG ISLAND DOCTOR HAS CURE FOR CRAMP

Breathe in a bag if you wake in the night with cramps in your limbs. This is the advice of Dr. G. W. Fitz of Long Island, who has confirmed a theory for the cause of primary cramp and in so doing has developed a cure. The exact degree of acidity in the blood is regulated to a fine degree in healthy people by a sensitive mechanism, and a slight shifting to the alkaline side of the normal is held responsible for the involuntary stimulations of the muscles which manifest themselves as muscle cramp. Accepting this theory, Dr. Fitz argued that if he were to counteract this alkalinity, the distressing symptoms should disappear and this he proceeded to do by permitting the accumulation of carbonic acid in the blood stream. When seized with an attack, he tried the effect of reduced breathing, holding the breath, and finally of breathing into a bag. The result was that if sufficient carbon dioxide was re-inhaled, the cramps disappeared.

"When re-breathing was made fully effective by the use of a three-quart rubber cloth bag securely held over mouth and nose, the pain was immediately greatly reduced, and the cramps faded out," stated Dr. Fitz. When the treatment proved successful in his own case. Dr. Fitz advised it for many of his patients, and it proved equally effective.

"The results have been so uniform and prompt in many different people and in cases involving different muscles, that there can be no question that reduction in the alkalinity of the blood by permitting the accumulation of carbon dioxide, constitutes a true physiological cure for cramp of the skeletal muscles," he stated. "It constitutes a quick practical cure for an extremely painful, and frequently, a terrifying condition."

Obviously the treatment cannot be applied to attacks of cramp which are a secondary consequence of some other disease.
