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ability to destroy the germs is not the only factor in keeping them out of the blood during the disease.

Searching further, Dr. Robertson found that in dogs with pneumonia but with no pneumonia germs in their blood, large numbers of these germs were often found in the lymph nodes. This and other findings suggested that the lymph nodes in the hilum of the lung act as chief barrier between lungs and blood.

Remedy For Chronic Colitis

PATIENTS suffering from a serious and chronic disease which in some ways resembles the fashionable ailment, colitis, have been helped by treatment with one of the new chemical remedies related to sulfanilamide, it was announced at a meeting of the American College of Surgeons.

This latest addition to the long list of diseases which are being conquered by sulfanilamide or its derivatives is chronic ulcerative colitis, an unpleasant ailment which, while not directly fatal, weakens the patient and makes him anemic due to loss of blood so that he is likely to die of some infection that a healthy person could throw off.

Neoprontosil, given by mouth, brought "favorable results" in 49 cases of this condition, Dr. A. E. Brown of the Mayo Clinic reported. Some of the patients were given serum or vaccines in addition to the chemical remedy, but 29 of them were helped by the chemical treatment alone.

"We do not feel that neoprontosil (oral) is a specific or a cure for chronic ulcerative colitis," Dr. Brown said in reporting the results obtained by himself and his colleagues, Drs. Wallace E. Herrrell and J. Arnold Bargaen.

They feel, however, that the results with this chemical and the fact that it does not produce symptoms of poisoning "amply justify its continued use in the treatment of chronic ulcerative colitis." They had previously tried both sulfanilamide itself and another of its derivatives as a remedy for this chronic sickness, but were obliged to abandon these because they produced toxic symptoms before the patient was well.

The sulfanilamide chemicals were first considered for use in treating this condition because of their effect in streptococcus infections and because a germ related to the streptococci might be the cause of chronic ulcerative colitis.

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MEDICINE

This Year's Epidemic Wasn't Real Influenza

No Such Thing as "Intestinal 'Flu'", Doctor Declares; Similar Upsets Occur in Other Infectious Diseases

TENS of thousands of people who were sick, presumably of influenza, in the epidemic which is only now tapering off, did not have true influenza at all, in the opinion of Dr. Thomas Francis, Jr., of New York University College of Medicine. Neither Dr. Francis nor other scientists with whom he has talked were able to detect the virus of true influenza from patients this season.

Not every patient in this year's epidemic, of course, was given the two tests which Dr. Francis described for detecting influenza, but the evidence from those who were tested shows that the epidemic was not influenza but some other infection of the nose and throat which caused coughs, laryngitis and other symptoms.

The tests Dr. Francis described depend on the fact that in true influenza on the fourth day the patient is sick his blood develops a large amount of flu-germ-fighting substances called antibodies. This increase in antibodies can be detected even when the influenza virus cannot be obtained from the throats of the patients, but the increase does not occur unless the patient has been attacked by influenza virus.

There is no such thing as "intestinal flu," Dr. Francis declared. Patients with influenza may have an intestinal upset, he explained, but so do patients with scarlet fever and other infectious diseases.

True influenza starts suddenly, often with chills, and constitutional symptoms and headache predominate, and

the course of the disease is usually short. These symptoms should help doctors distinguish it from other infections. Laryngitis with hoarse voice and exudate are not present in influenza.

Epidemic influenza, Dr. Francis declared, is not related to the common cold in any stage of the illness.

Influenza on Wane

INFLUENZA (that is, what is being called influenza this season) is on the wane, and favorable conditions prevail throughout the United States so far as communicable diseases are concerned. This is the verdict of the U. S. Public Health Service, based on recently compiled health figures.

That the influenza season has passed its peak is inferred from a continued drop. For the week ending March 25, new cases numbered 14,809, with a few states not heard from. The largest number were reported by Alabama, Texas, Virginia, South Carolina and Arkansas.

New cases of infantile paralysis are near a low ebb. The week of March 18, with only nine new cases, made a low record not equalled since April, 1935. Thirteen cases were reported the week of March 25.

Smallpox has been running a score of 300 or more new cases weekly since the first of the year, but dropped to 248 cases the past week. Although the form is non-virulent, health officials warn that it might take a more serious turn.

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