

B.H.A. ANALYSIS OF ASIAN FLU NOSODE RESULTS

Following the Press conference held by the B.H.A. last September to announce that a homœopathic oral vaccine (nosode) against Asian influenza could be made available in quantities sufficient to meet any immediate and future demand, the B.H.A. has received much encouraging information about its use during the epidemic which swept Britain during the autumn of 1957. Factories, industrial concerns and doctors who made full use of the nosode provided carefully tabulated details, some of which are summarised below:

INDUSTRIAL

A homœopathic doctor carried out a test in two factories. He gave some members of the staff the nosode; the remainder did not receive any prophylactic treatment. In the case of one factory, of 441 employees, 242 received the nosode. Only 19 of these contracted influenza, involving a loss of 45 working days. Of the 199 who did not take the nosode, 36 had influenza resulting in a loss of 165 working days.

The second factory had a total staff of 450, and here 195 received the nosode. Only seven of these went down with influenza, with a loss of 60 working days. Of the remaining 225, 25 contracted influenza, resulting in a loss of 221 days.

At a small electrical business in the country, out of a staff of 45, which included four directors, 36 received the nosode, and of these 10 developed influenza. Of the nine who did not take the vaccine two had influenza.

SCHOOL

Thirty-four members of a school staff of 36 were given the nosode. None of these contracted influenza, but the other two both had the 'flu, resulting in a loss of 14 school days. The head-master, commenting on this experience, said that in addi-

tion 16 members of the staff gave their own families a course of the homœopathic vaccine. No one in these families had influenza, although they were every day in contact with the school, which was experiencing an epidemic among the pupils.

Seventy-six of the staff of 88 in a business house in London took the nosode. Only nine of them contracted influenza, but of the other 12 three did.

An official, writing of his experience with a staff of about 150, said: "Tablets were issued to our staff and their families. Of the 27 who developed influenza only eight were members of the staff, and a large proportion of the other 19 were children. It was most noticeable that the cases were isolated quite often to only one member of the family."

In a Manchester firm with a staff of 200, all took the nosode. Twenty of these contracted influenza, with a total loss of 120 working days.

A firm in South London, with a staff of 40, all of whom were given the homœopathic tablets, reported that only one had an attack of influenza, and this was very slight.

At a publishing house in London, 47 of the staff of over 500 had the nosode. Eight of these contracted influenza, resulting in a loss of 47 working days. Of the remaining 460, who did not have any prophylactic treatment, 120 developed influenza, with a loss of 715 working days. Three of these casualties developed bronchitis and one had pneumonia.

FISHING FLEET

At a fishing port, where the crews of seven vessels received the nosode, an official said that the severity of influenza attacks was minimised. The crews of five boats of the fleet experienced only a few casualties.

During the winter there was an increase in the incidence of influenza generally, in addition to the Asian variety. Indeed, at the time of the epidemic it was difficult to assess the exact amount of the "pure" Asian type that was being experienced. Medical reports suggest that there were three forms of influenza prevailing during the epidemic. They were:

1. The ordinary endemic variety.
2. Para-'flu (related to paratyphoid).
3. Asian 'flu.

CONCLUSION

The incidence of these different varieties of influenza have naturally made it difficult to assess the full value of the nosode—although, of course, the same principle has been applied to combat a variety of diseases with proven success for very many years.

The summary of the reports collected by the B.H.A. is the result of field experiences which, although of great value, are not the only possible tests of the effectiveness of any vaccine.

The numbers involved are comparatively small, thus making the problem of a general analysis of the effectiveness of the nosode difficult. But nevertheless, in the light of this and previous homœopathic experience, any encouraging result in this sphere must surely indicate to the Government's medical authorities that they can ill afford to neglect this so promising line of development in combating this or any other scourge.

—*Homœopathy, July '58.*

FOUR CASES TREATED WITH RAUWOLFIA SERPENTINA

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codendron, Phosphorus, Arsenicum and Cuprum might demand differentiation from *Rauwolfia*.

The possibilities of any new remedy cannot be evaluated without a definite, consistent, and continued application in cases which seemingly indicate its use.

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