

Your Health

THE FIRST CONCERN.



TRANSMISSION OF SYPHILIS

From Good Health Magazine.

Question: Can a child inherit syphilis from its mother? If so, how can this be reconciled with the general statement that germ diseases are not inherited?

Answer: The transmission of syphilitic infection from mother to child might better be called passive transmission. It is not true inheritance, since the hereditary factors, located in the chromosomes in the nucleus of the egg cell are in no way involved. The disease is of course due to a micro-organism, specifically a spirochaete, designated in medical literature as *Spirochaeta pallida* (sometimes *Trypanema pallida*). This organism may be recovered in large numbers from syphilitic lesions, and is present in many tissues of a person suffering from the disease. The germs are very small and several of them may sometimes exist in a single cell of the body. The human egg-cell, though small as egg-cells go (about .2 mm. in diameter), is in reality very large as compared to other tissue cells and therefore offers excellent opportunity for the tiny spirochaetes to invade its substance. An egg-cell, therefore, even before it is fertilized by a sperm, may bear syphilitic infection, which will later involve the tissues of the embryo. Of course, since the embryo lies many months surrounded by maternal tissues which may themselves harbor the infection, there is ample opportunity for the spirochaetes to gain access to its tissues any time during gestation, or even during birth. Any case of syphilitic infection present in a child from birth is termed "congenital," and implies infection from the maternal organism either in the egg-cell stage, or any time during pregnancy. We therefore see considerable of a distinction between conditions which are truly hereditary and those which are more properly, merely congenital.

In case the congenital syphilis actually goes back to the one-cell (egg-cell) stage, it is interesting to note that only in the cytoplasm of the egg is there sufficient room for the pathogenic organisms to reside. The tiny nucleus (which bears all hereditary characteristics, or is supposed to do so), is far too small to accommodate the parasites. Another instance of passive transmission of a disease organism by way of the cytoplasm of an egg-cell is that of the transmission of "Texas fever" of the common cattle tick of the south, *Boophilus annulatus*. The tick remains all her life upon one host animal, moulting from larva to nymph and from nymph to adult without dropping to the ground. Only after mating do the female ticks drop from the cattle to the ground to lay their eggs. They therefore have no opportunity to pass the infection from one cow to another except by way of their offspring. The tiny *Piroplasma* germs, as they are called, are present in the tick eggs when these are laid, and the larvae or "seed ticks" which emerge from them are capable of infecting new cattle with the disease. The youngsters climb up on grasses and fence boards and attach themselves to any animals which may happen to brush past. In former days, when it was common practice to drive huge herds of southern cattle north to market, the dairy cattle along the route usually suffered annually from outbreaks of Texas or "red-water" fever. The parent ticks had dropped from the passing beef cattle, and their offspring had transmitted the protozoan infection to the local herds. It came to be common practice to speak of the disease as hereditary in the tick, though, as we have just seen, the term is scarcely correct.

The possibility of transmission of any condition from mother to offspring by way of the cytoplasm of the egg-cell, is interesting, since it defines a type of inheritance which is peculiar to the female parent and in which the male can take no part. For the male germ-cell, or sperm, consists almost entirely of nucleus, its cytoplasmic portion being entirely confined to the minute tail or locomotor organ, which ordinarily takes no part in the final process of fertilization.

SCARLET FEVER

A discovery that X-Rays may be used to protect the public and particularly children against spread of scarlet fever was reported to the American Public Health Association.

QUESTIONS.

1. In what way do X-rays prevent the spread of infection?
2. Where does the infection remain hidden?
3. What is the other name applied to scarlet fever?
4. When and by whom was the germ first isolated?
5. Through what food is the infection sometimes carried?
6. What is the period of incubation for this germ?
7. What form of scarlet fever is fatal before the symptoms manifest themselves?

ANSWERS.

1. X-rays sometimes reveal infec-

tion in a patient after the usual tests indicate that he is cured.
2. The infection remains hidden in the sinuses.
3. Scarlatina.
4. Klein first isolated a germ in 1885.
5. Milk.
6. The period of incubation in scarlet fever may be as short as one or two days, and in most instances it is less than a week.
7. Toxic or ataxic scarlatina (scarlatina maligna).

SCIENCE DEVELOPS TEST TO PREVENT SCARLET FEVER

By R. S. Copeland, M. D.

Much has been accomplished in the prevention and treatment of scarlet fever. Our new knowledge dates back to 1923 and 1924. It was at this time that the "Dick test" was first announced. It's use is believed to have caused a great reduction in the occurrence of scarlet fever.

The test is simple. It consists of injecting underneath the skin a certain toxin. If a child is susceptible to scarlet fever, a definite rash is produced.

When the Dick test is positive, it means that the child should receive the injection treatment to guard against scarlet fever. These injections are simple and they contribute to the safety of the child.

Please remember that this treatment is not intended to be a remedy for scarlet fever. It is used as a means of preventing it. For this reason it has a high place in guarding the schools and communities.

The serum is given in five injections at intervals of seven days. This is the same for children and for adults. It is a simple treatment and no ill effects result from it. It is said to give definite protection against scarlet fever for a period of at least five years.

It would mark a great advance in public health if all children were immunized against scarlet fever. The importance of this test cannot be overestimated. We pray it may meet with the same success that has attended the prevention of diphtheria.

Please do not confuse the two procedures. The test for determining the susceptibility to diphtheria is the "Schick test." The test for determining the susceptibility to scarlet fever is the "Dick test."

Three important things can be done by the mother for the protection of her child. They are small-pox vaccination, scarlet fever immunization and diphtheria immunization.

Consult with your physician or the local Board of Health about these matters. Much unnecessary suffering and worry will be escaped by attention to them.

In addition to the prevention of scarlet fever, tremendous strides have been made in the treatment of this disease. This has been accomplished by the development of a scarlet fever antitoxin. This is believed to have saved the lives of many children.

EDISON WILL AID WORLD BY MENTAL TELEPATHY

The brilliant mind of Thomas A. Edison will continue to aid mankind, possibly through "some kind of mental telepathy," Sir Oliver Lodge, scientist and spiritualist, declared, in commenting on the death of the American inventor. Sir Oliver, who recently announced his own intention of communicating with the world after death, said that he believes it certain that such men as Edison and the late Senator Dwight W. Morrow continue after death to exert influence on the affairs of men.

"The dead," he declared, "take themselves and their characters and their histories along with them. The stages through which they have passed on earth have had an effect which lasts into the beyond."

The noted white-haired spiritualist said that Edison and Morrow will influence people of earth from beyond as they did during their lives.

"But the task of Mr. Morrow," he declared, "is easier, because as a politician he dealt with ideas."

"His earthly training fitted him to influence the minds of his fellow men, whereas Mr. Edison's work was primarily with material things. These material things are not as easily influenced from beyond as are the minds of men."

LINEN "TEXTBOOKS" USED IN EARLY SCHOOLROOMS

"Your lesson for tomorrow will be on the blue handkerchief."

Children in the primary schools of Wisconsin, during the days of a century ago, fully realized the significance of the schoolmarm's words. In the absence of textbooks, linen handkerchiefs, full of prints depicting the great moments and the great men of history, were used to instruct the youngsters. This method was to teach children how to read and to spell. Different lessons required different handkerchiefs.

Fortunately, little Mary and little Johnny did not have to tote a pocketful of references. A handkerchief a day made schooling pay.

In a shaded corridor of the Historical museum, on the University of Wisconsin campus, one may see the faded linen, once the pride of a studious child. George Washington is the lesson text. A full-length print of George in characteristic Napoleonic pose fills the center of the foot-square of goods. To the right, in large type, still legible, are the birth, death and other vital facts.

Farmers in the Regina, Sask., district, unable to get more than ten cents a pound for butter are using the product as axle grease on their farm implements. The butter is working efficiently.

THE ETERNAL MICROBE

(Continued from page 2, Col. 6.)

Nancy rose swiftly. If her mother had discovered the ad—
Her mother had. "Why, this isn't what Mr. Noyes read to your father," she protested as she glimpsed Nancy.

"He thought it might bother Father," explained Nancy. "It's—it's rather unusual for Slogan City, you see."

Her mother was again studying the ad. The black letters at the top read:

AUGUST AGAIN—AND GOSH

HOW WE HATE IT!

Beneath that, in smaller type, was:

Another annual furniture sale! But stop yawning—this is serious. To us, anyway. We don't know who said autumn was the melancholy season but we'll bet it wasn't a furniture dealer.

August is his Black Friday: the time when he must check up his stock and try to sell you something—anything. Particularly his mistakes. We all make them, you know.

Perhaps you think you know just what we have to offer. But do you know about our historic relics? We thought not! The list below is only a fraction of what we have to show you.

Every piece has a history, you see. We know it all by heart. Some of them almost break our hearts too. Then came the list—an eye-arresting list.

"It seems so unusual," murmured Nancy's mother. "This thing about the iron coffee stand, for instance." Nancy had seen that too. It read:

\$49.50 Wrought-iron Coffee Stand, genuine onyx top. This was imported from Italy. We wish the Italians had it back! We thought it choice once—perhaps you will now. If so, that's your hard luck. It will cost you just \$19.85.

"And those Provencal dressers," added her mother. "They were in last year's sale—remember? Your father said they were a rare bargain, but—"

But what Pat had said was: \$37.50 Provencal Oak Dressers. Two only—and, oh, why did we buy them? Take a look at them. If you can stand them you can have one or both for \$21.50 each.

There was item after item like that.

\$11.75 Mahogany-finished Fernery. We loved it once but it's an eyesore to us now. You take it and look at it for \$5.95.

\$10.50 Mahogany-finished Magazine Holder. At least that's what we thought it was. But perhaps it's a poultry feeder. If so, class for the chickens and it must be worth \$2.98.

\$165 Two-piece Bed Davenport set in Jacquard velvet. A custom-er once said, "It's lovely but more than I want to pay." Where is she? She can have it for \$119.

\$100 Wardrobe, Canopy Top, walnut veneer. If you don't need a wardrobe, this is big enough for a garage. Think of it—combination wardrobe and garage for \$44.50!

This was the beginning. But before Nancy and her mother got further, Pat appeared.

"Mr. Pray seems to think my efforts aren't original enough," he remarked.

"Original enough," breathed Nancy. "If he could see this!"

"Let's wait till we can tell him how it works out. The truth is that I'd have followed his copy if results in other years had been satisfactory, but they haven't been."

"Oh, I'm sure you know your business," said Nancy's mother.

Nancy was not so optimistic about that, naturally. But she couldn't discuss it until they were in Pat's car.

"Of course I'm no expert," admitted Pat, then. "But do you think that ad won't be read?"

"It's amusing," Nancy granted. "But it just pokes fun at everything. And if you want to sell things—"

"I certainly do," he told her fervently. "But have you ever considered the psychology of under-advertising?"

Nancy hadn't.

"Put it this way," he suggested.

"You heard about somebody who is wonderful. Then you meet him. At first you agree. Then, as time goes on, aren't you apt to find little flaws—things that you wouldn't ever have thought of if the person wasn't supposed to be so wonderful?"

"Y-yes," admitted Nancy.

"On the other hand, suppose you have been told that So-and-so was simply awful. Or just homely, let's say. You may agree to that, too, at first meeting. But in time haven't you found that So-and-so wasn't so bad, after all?"

"Of course. But—"

"Think it over," he interrupted. "Human beings are contrary and they are apt to form their own opinions, no matter what you tell them."

"You mean that you think—"

"I hope!" he corrected. "Call me up at ten o'clock tomorrow and I'll know."

Instead, Nancy went to the store herself a little after nine. She had never in her life seen so many people there. But were they customers, or just curious?

Two women stood in front of the wrought-iron coffee stand. Nancy loitered, deliberately eavesdropping. "I don't think it's bad at all," one was saying. "I saw one just like it in New York last spring. It would just fit between the dining-room windows—and it is a great bargain."

And that was a sample of the human psychology that, before the day was ended, was to give Henry Pray and Son the biggest single day's sales total in its history. In August, at that.

"Let's just drop into Pray's a second and look at the things they said

those funny things about," was what one woman was saying to another that day.

Few had any intention of buying. "But coming to scout they remained to—well, you finish it," suggested Pat with a grin that evening. "The word 'Pray' comes in too pat." They were again in his car. It was late, because he had had his confession to make to her father. The way the latter had taken that always seemed a serious, humorless man. But as he listened, a smile hovered around his wan lips.

"I've often felt like saying something like that myself," he had confessed. "But I never dared to. I only wish there were some way of keeping you here."

Pat had taken Nancy's breath away. "I'll stay on one condition," he promised. "That is, that you go to California and take a real rest."

"But I can't imagine you content in Slogan City," her father had said.

Nor could Nancy. She was thinking of that as Pat drove through the prairie night. Just as they had driven through the Long Island night less than a week before. She had hardly known Pat then; she wondered if she knew him now. He had grown swiftly in her estimation.

She felt humble; she had had so little faith in him. And now—

"I think you're wonderful!" she announced impulsively. "I do. Oh, Pat, how did I ever get you?"

"Get me? It was my impression I got you—with considerable effort." But I'm scared now, Pat. I never expected you to stay here. Won't you miss Long Island and all your friends?"

"But I've got you."

"I know, but I didn't mean for you to give up everything. I fell fast. But I'm scared now, Pat. I never expected you to stay here. Won't you miss Long Island and all your friends?"

"Well, tennis, for instance."

"I should worry about tennis?"

"That's what you say now. But after a while—"

Four-wheel brakes did their stuff; the car stopped with a jolt.

"Good Lord!" exploded Pat. "Is that worrying you? If so, figure it out from another angle. Can't you realize that today has given me the thrill of a lifetime? To see all those people come trooping in—what is tennis compared to that? I don't know this game yet; there's a lot to it and I'm like a tiger that has tasted blood. I begin to see why men refer to their business as a game. Tennis? Say, this game—"

Nancy found her voice. "Oh, Pat! You mean it? You really do?"

"A funny taste for Pat Noyes," he admitted, "but I do. And"—his arms tightened about her; he tilted her head back—"even if I didn't, I'd do it for you."

Love is like that. A disease, perhaps; possibly contagious. Perhaps something should be done about it.

On the other hand, what price a serum for it, even if one could be discovered?—Hearst's International Cosmopolitan.

WHAT CONSTITUTES

A REAL SILVER FOX.

The name silver fox as commonly used by furriers, includes the dark phases of the ordinary red fox, variously called silver, silver-gray, silver-black or black. The color of the red fox of the northern States and of the colder parts of North America varies from red to black, and these extremes, with the gradation between them, form four more or less distinct phases, known, respectively, as red, cross or patch, silver and black. The silver fox, therefore, is a color phase of the red fox. It is dark all over, with silver hairs intermixed, but not red, and the tip of the tail is generally, but not always, white. The guard hairs which give the silver appearance to the pelage are not entirely white, but are black with a white band, and some guard hairs are entirely black.

Before putting the sprayer away for the winter it should be cleaned and all working and adjustment parts thoroughly oiled.

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TELEPHONE

Gen. 11

POINTS THAT HUNTERS SHOULD KEEP IN MIND.

In connection with the deer season which will open next Tuesday at which time both sexes may be hunted in the entire State from December 1 to December 15, inclusive, it might be well to remember the following regulations:

A hunter may kill only 1 deer, either a buck or a doe.

A legal deer must either have two or more points to one antler; or be without visible antlers or horns, and weigh at least 40 lbs. with entrails removed.

It is unlawful for any body of men, either together or hunting in unison, or in any manner co-operating with each other, to kill or be possessed of, in one season, more than six legal deer.

It is not legal for a hunter to hire a hunting camp or other headquarters for the purpose of hunting deer, with the assumption that such headquarters would be regarded as a public boarding house or hotel, and that each individual hunter residing at such headquarters would be permitted to kill one deer.

A party of men boarding at a private camp, cabin, or other headquarters established for the purpose of hunting and not recognized as a public boarding house or hotel where travelers are accommodated the year round, may not lawfully kill more than six deer in one season regardless of how many hunters are boarded at the camp.

No special license is needed to hunt deer. Both resident and non-resident hunters' licenses permits the killing of both sexes. The 1931 Legislature removed the special deer license feature from the game laws. A license issued in one county will be good in all other counties.

Hunters will need to exercise more caution in selecting legal quarry this year than ever before, because they will have to be just as certain that an antlerless deer has no spikes or horns, and is of proper weight, as they are that a buck has two or more points, or a "3", to one antler. Commission officials are of the opinion that this added necessity for caution will not only decrease the number of violations for killing illegal deer, but will be one of the greatest safety provisions of the game laws. Hunters will be forced to think twice and look carefully before shooting.

Sportsmen are urged to co-operate to the fullest extent with officials of the Commission this year in an effort to make the deer season one of the best in the history of the Commonwealth. Although antlerless deer were hunted previously under special seasons, this is the first since the enactment of the "Buck Law," a quarter of a century ago, that both sexes of deer were declared legal prey during the same period.

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Soy Bean Oil Meal	1.60
Gluten Feed	1.50
Fine Ground Alfalfa Meal	2.25
Meat Scraps 45%	2.00
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Oyster Shell	1.00
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