

## **Trypanosomes in Montreal rats / by Oskar Klotz.**

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## TRYPANOSOMES IN MONTREAL RATS.

BY

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After Dr. Todd's extensive report before this Society on the Trypanosomes of Central Africa Sleeping Sickness, we are apt to associate this organism with diseases in far off lands. There are, however, many varieties of trypanosomes, and it would appear that some of the animal parasites not yet fully worked out will yet be classified amongst the trypanosomes. During the winter of 1906-07, Dr. Ballah and I examined for trypanosomes some forty rats, all obtained in the same locality in Montreal. These examinations all proved negative. Recently I examined two rats from a down-town grocery, and found both of them to harbour trypanosomes in their blood in large numbers. Subsequent to this, Dr. Rankin found trypanosomes in a rat obtained at the Royal Victoria Hospital. No doubt, if an extensive search were made, these trypanosomes would be found in a large percentage of the rats of this city.

This organism, the *T. Lewisi*, is a very common parasite in the ordinary house rat, some even claim that it is as widely distributed as the rat itself. Novy, of Ann Arbor, was the first to recognize the *T. Lewisi* in America. Since then, I learn that it has been found in Detroit, San Francisco, Philadelphia, New York, Lincoln, Seattle, Chicago and Ottawa.



