### Report of the executive committee for the years 1905 / The Jenner Society.

### **Contributors**

Royal Jennerian Society. London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

### **Publication/Creation**

[London]: The Jenner Society, 1905.

### **Persistent URL**

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# THE JENNER SOCIETY.

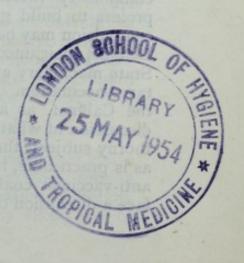
# REPORT

OF THE

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR

1905.



## REPORT.

THE Committee of the Jenner Society have little to record in the way of incident during the past year. No great epidemic of small-pox has occurred to direct attention specially to the subject, and the occupation of Parliament with matters other than social legislation has not afforded either House any opportunity for discussing it. Apparently by a sort of tacit understanding, it has not been alluded to on either side of the House of Commons; and though two Bills were nominally before the legislature, one, that of the Imperial Vaccination League, for promoting re-vaccination, and the other that introduced by the Anti-vaccination League for abolishing compulsory vaccination altogether, neither of them had the least chance of consideration when their promoters failed, as both of them did, to secure, through the ballot, an opportunity for a second reading in the House of Commons.

### A Critical Juncture.

But, just as the year was closing the whole aspect of things has suddenly changed. The Unionist Government, with its great majority, composed, it may not be unreasonably assumed, largely of members who are favourable to the cause of vaccination, after being apparently unable to use this advantage even to procure a hearing for the Re-vaccination Bill, retired from office, and the Opposition, with an even

larger majority at their backs, have taken their place.

It becomes, therefore, important to consider what, in this new state of things, are the prospects, not merely of securing legislation for the promotion of re-vaccination, but even of maintaining the requirement of vaccination as it at present exists, under the Vaccination Act of 1898. The importance of this problem is accentuated by the fact that in so many of the local contests between representatives of the two political parties the active assistance of the opponents of vaccination has been given to supporters of the present Government, in consideration of promises by them to support the abolition of compulsory vaccination. On these promises anti-vaccinists profess to build great hopes. But, though the abolition of compulsion may be the professed object of the Anti-vaccination League, their unconcealed aim is to sweep away the existing State machinery even if used only for the promotion of voluntary vaccination. It is, therefore, not improbable that though the Cabinet, as a whole, may be desirous of avoiding the discussion of what is felt by both parties to be a particularly thorny subject, their hands may be forced, at as early a date as is practicable, by some test motion brought forward by the anti-vaccinist coalition, and they will thus be compelled to face a discussion of it.

### The Position Defined.

What, then, it is well to enquire, are the conditions under which the discussion will take place? The majority of those members of the House of Commons who may have committed themselves to support the abolition of compulsion are men of intelligence, and, it may be assumed, are free from the prejudices of the pronounced anti-vaccinist. If they have not actually mastered the evidence on which the Royal Commission founded their report in favour of vaccination, they recognise that it is too strong to leave any doubt of the general value of Jenner's prophylactic.

They will probably be satisfied if some action can be taken to relieve applicants for exemption from the vexatious hecklings, and, in some cases, absolute refusals, by which they have been so unwisely worried by some magistrates, whose enthusiasm for vaccination has exceeded their discretion in interpreting the provisions which the legislature made for

carrying out this concession.

There are other members of the majority who may be disposed to go further and to abolish compulsion in any form, not only in the case of infants, but of young people and adults who are now required, as a condition of employment by the State, to show that they have been efficiently vaccinated. This is the position which was taken up by two of the members of the Royal Commission, one of whom is now a member of the House of Commons. But, though in their dissentient report these two Commissioners endeavoured to show that the belief expressed by their colleagues in the value of vaccination was not sufficiently well-founded to justify its enforcement, they concurred in recommending the retention and improvement of the existing State machinery for promoting it.

Lastly, there is a section of the extreme anti-vaccinists, who decry vaccination as not only useless as a protection against small-pox but as being positively injurious to the health of those who undergo it, some of them even having the temerity to assert that it actually promotes the disease it was designed to prevent. This section voices the opinions of the most active of the opponents of vaccination outside of Parliament, but there is reason for thinking that it has very few representatives inside the House of Commons, and that those who may venture to promulgate their extravagant opinions are not likely to obtain any acceptance of them.

### The Question of Policy.

Assuming then that under one or other of the influences above indicated, Parliament may during the ensuing session be involved in a discussion of the Vaccination Question, it remains to enquire what action on it is likely to be

taken and how far it is desirable and practicable to attempt to shape the direction in which such action can be promoted. It may be further assumed that, as in all other political questions in which expediency dictates the desirability of pursuing a median course between two conflicting policies, especially when they are entangled in disputes about matters of fact, as that of vaccination is, Parliament will, with true British instinct in such matters, seek the direction of least resistance and will adopt some kind of compromise, the nature of which will largely depend upon the discretion with which the case for vaccination is urged.

In considering the possibilities of Parliamentary action in this matter, it is well to bear in mind that the Vaccination Act of 1898 was avowedly an experiment, and on that account was enacted for only five years. It would have ceased to operate last year by efflux of time had it not been kept alive for another year by its having been included in the Expiring Laws Continuance Act. Had this not been done all the procedure instituted by it would have lapsed, and the machinery of public vaccination would have practically come

to a stop.

It is clear, therefore, that the Government must take action of some kind during the ensuing session, for it cannot be supposed that they will shirk their responsibility in the matter by allowing the Act to drop altogether. The time of the present session is so completely mortgaged for more pressing questions that there is little hope of any being found for the discussion of a Vaccination Bill. It is, therefore, reasonable to assume that the Act will be kept alive for another year, but with an explicit promise of legislation in regard to it during 1907. During the interval the Government will have ample opportunity for informing themselves of the weak points of the Act and of other matters involved in the administration of vaccination with which the Act did not deal, but which call for amendment in any measure which is intended to settle this vexed question for at least a generation, as it is to be hoped will then be done.

As a preliminary to such legislation the Government will do well to institute a formal inquiry, preferably by a special commission, into the whole subject of vaccination administration. For it is much more to the defects of its administration than to any disbelief in the protective value of vaccination itself that the practice owes any unpopularity it

may have acquired.

The Report of the Royal Commission on Vaccination settled conclusively for all intelligent and unbiassed persons the facts that vaccination when properly performed, as it has been by Public Vaccinators, under the supervision of the Local

Government Board since the Act of 1867, is, as it has since been declared to be by more than 1100 Medical Officers of Health, "the only trustworthy protection at present known against small-pox, alike for the individual and the community," and that the risks attendant on it are so "inconsiderable" that they may be disregarded.

But whilst the Royal Commissioners endorsed the opinion at which the Governments of all other civilized countries have, by a similar process of independent inquiry, arrived and have thus placed the claims of vaccination, as a protection against small-pox, upon an impregnable foundation, they dealt in their Final Report only in a very imperfect way with the subject of its administration.

They did, indeed, make some important recommendations of an administrative character, such as the discontinuance of repeated prosecutions of defaulters; the use of calf lymph; the replacement of vaccination stations by domiciliary

visitation and the promotion of re-vaccination.

All of these recommendations were embodied in the Act of 1898 except the last, which is by no means the least important of them, though it is the one which is calculated to provoke the greatest hostility, unless very carefully handled; which is probably the reason why the late Government did not care to introduce it into their Vaccination Bill.

In addition to questions connected with these specific recommendations upon which it is desirable to obtain the results of experience since they were adopted, there are other matters connected with vaccination administration which need investigation and revision before the propriety is considered of abandoning the protection to the public health which even the present attenuated form of compulsion affords. As has been above stated, the opposition to vaccination has mainly grown out of defects in its administration and the time has come when it is wise to inquire whether the machinery which was established half a century ago for the purpose of applying Jenner's prophylactic to the nation at large has not grown in some respects rusty and out of date in view of the progress of medical knowledge, of general education and of public opinion since that time.

But, in view of the possibility of a discussion being sprung upon the House of Commons, in which it will be wise that the supporters of vaccination should be prepared with a definite policy, it is well to refer to two questions which may be expected occupy a leading place in the debate. The first is the concession made by the Act of 1898 to the individual who is so commonly miscalled

### The Conscientious Objector.

Whatever may be thought of the wisdom of the concession

the Vaccination Act of 1898 made to this much-discussed individual, which, it must be remembered, was made on the unanimous recommendation of the Royal Commissioners, even the most enthusiastic pro-vaccinist must recognise that it cannot now be withdrawn. But when it comes under reconsideration it will be open to those who were not satisfied with the hasty manner in which this Act was hurried through Parliament to suggest a more excellent way of meeting the case of the "determined" objector than that adopted by the Act. There can be little doubt that though Parliament may have acted wisely in making the concession, it was less wise in meeting what might be only a temporary objection by a perpetual

exemption.

To permanently exempt any person from the provisions of an Act which is, ex hypothesi, applicable to all alike, is to create a position which is logically indefensible and is calculated to bring legislation into contempt, On the other hand, to have granted temporary exemption from the requirements of the Vaccination Acts would not only have avoided a logical blunder but would be merely an extension of two provisions which have always been recognised in vaccination law. One is, that the requirement of vaccination may be postponed on a medical certificate, on the ground that it would be prejudicial to the health of the child. The other is, that a vaccination defaulter shall not be considered guilty of an offence if he shall render a "reasonable excuse" for his neglect. The extension of these two provisions would remove all the difficulties of the case. Instead of requiring the objecting parent to obtain a medical certificate that vaccination would be injurious to the health of his child, it would be sufficient for him to declare, as he may do now, that he believed it would be injurious to its health. Such a declaration might be as properly accepted as a "reasonable excuse" for the temporary suspension of the requirements of the law as it is now for permanent exemption from them.

### Suspension v. Exemption.

The question remains, for how long should the suspension operate? There need be no difficulty about the answer to this question: the suspension should operate until the child may happen to be exposed to the risk of catching small-pox from the prevalence of the disease in its immediate neighbourhood; or, until it commenced its school-life, when it would be exposed to risks of catching small-pox from which, under ordinary circumstances, it would be, comparatively speaking, free before that stage of its career.

If the parent then still persisted in his objection, there would be no alternative to renewing the suspension, until,

again, the child might be exposed to urgent risk of catching small-pox, or until it was about to leave school. Then a third and last opportunity should be afforded the parent of reconsidering his responsibilities before the child was allowed to escape altogether from the observation of the State, under

which it would have been up to that time.

It may be asked, what would be gained by this procedure over that of the Act of 1898? The gain would be very great, as a little consideration will show. It, clearly, does not follow that because a parent objects to the vaccination of his child when an infant he will continue to do so when the infant becomes an older child. Circumstances may have altogether changed. The delicate infant may, and probably will, have become a robust child, with no tendency to eruptive disorder. The objecting parent, on the other hand, if the father of the child, might in the interval have changed his views with regard to vaccination, even if he were originally a stalwart Such conversions do undoubtedly occur. anti-vaccinist. Why should he not be afforded the benefit of the locus poenitentia which the automatic revival of the law would afford him, and thus be able to have his child vaccinated by the routine of domiciliary visitation, without being subjected to the necessity of officiously submitting the child to the public vaccinator? It is good policy to make the path of the converted objector as easy as possible.

### Conciliation of Mothers.

But there is an even stronger reason for the proposed procedure. It is notorious that the objection to infant vaccination comes chiefly from mothers, who are opposed to it, not because they have any scruples, conscientious or otherwise, against the practice, but because they believe from their own experience or from what they have been told by their neighbours, that it may involve a good deal of discomfort to themselves and possibly a certain amount of actual danger to their children. For it is impossible to ignore the fact that, in spite of the antiseptic precautions which are prescribed to public vaccinators, regrettable cases occasionally occur in which, though these undesirable sequelæ may be, and mostly are due to causes which have nothing to do with vaccination, they are calculated to impress mothers under whose notice they are brought, with a not unnatural dread of the operation.

But when the infant becomes a child of 4 or 5 years of age and ceases to be affected by the disturbance of teething and by liability to those disorders which are the result of bad feeding and other causes in infancy, and when the mothers, also, see, as they could not fail to do, that the chances of prejudicial results are infinitessimal, their objection to vaccination would disappear and a large number of school children would be allowed to be vaccinated without any

opposition.

The suspension for a definite period of the requirements of the law in the case of objecting parents would not, of course, interfere with the vaccination of those infants whose parents had no objection to the operation. The offer of vaccination in infancy would still be made to all parents, as it is now, and in this way a considerable number of infants of merely neglectful or indifferent parents would be brought under protection. Nor would the objecting parent be unreasonably prejudiced by obtaining only an order of suspension instead of one of total exemption, as he does at present. If, when the liability of the child to be vaccinated became automatically renewed, at the school age, the parent still persisted in his objection he would only have to repeat his former declaration and a further suspension would be granted.

The liability of the child to be vaccinated in case of risk of catching small-pox when the disease was prevalent in its immediate neighbourhood, would, of course, only be enforceable by a petty sessional court who would have to be satisfied

that a real danger existed.

### As to Compulsion.

Although the opponents of vaccination assert that they will be satisfied with nothing less than the complete erasure from the Statute book of all provision for promoting it, their preliminary attack will, as has been above observed, be directed ostensibly against the enforcement of vaccination in any form. If they can carry this point they will have

established a substantial basis for further operations.

It seems useless to suggest to those who take up this irreconcileable position that, so far as absolute compulsion in the matter of infant vaccination is concerned, it has never existed at all, for it has always been possible to accept the alternative of paying a fine. And even now a parent who objects to have his infant child vaccinated has only to comply with the very reasonable requirement that he shall state his objection with the formality which will show that he has some appreciation of the responsibilty he incurs in doing so, to obtain exemption from further proceedings. If he, either from negligence or from what is idiomatically called "sheer cussedness," fails to avail himself of the concession which Parliament has provided, he has no one but himself to thank if he is haled before the magistrates and fined for his contumacy.

There is, however, a large class of parents who do not entertain any conscientious objection to vaccination but who simply neglect to comply with the requirements of the law

from indifference or negligence. The Royal Commissioners, in their Final Report (sec. 523), discuss the subject of dealing with this class of parents. They say, "Why, it is asked, should not vaccination cease to be compulsory altogether and be left to the free choice of parents? If no penalty were attached to the failure to vaccinate, it is, we think, certain that a large number of children would remain unvaccinated from mere neglect on the part of their parents, or indisposition to incur the trouble involved, and not because they thought it better in the interests of their children. This appears to us to be a complete answer to the question. If we be right in the conclusions we have expressed on the subject of vaccination, it is better for the child, and better for the community that it should be vaccinated than that it should remain unvaccinated. A parent can have no inherent right, under the circumstances to which we have alluded, to prevent or neglect its vaccination." There can be no question that even the restricted form of compulsion retained by the Act of 1898 has conduced to the vaccination, since that date, of a large number not only of infants but of older persons who, but for the pressure exercised by it, would have remained unvaccinated. To the extent that the Act has thus promoted vaccination it has clearly been beneficial. And even in regard to the extent to which it has facilitated withdrawal of those children from the enforcement of protection whose parents have claimed exemption, it might have been more beneficial. Instead of leaving the meaning of the word "conscientious" to be squabbled over between ignorant or fanatical objectors and magistrates who are unable to see the prejudice they are creating against vaccination by their refusal of exemption to applicants who had not learned the precise shibboleth they are required to pronounce, it would have succeeded better if in pursuance of the recommendation of the Royal Commissioners, it had made it somewhat more troublesome for an objector to obtain exemption than to have his child vaccinated, without laying a trap for him which has made it in some cases not simply troublesome but impossible.

It will thus be seen that there is a strong case, which any government that has a due sense of its responsibility in this matter would have to consider, for instituting a comprehensive inquiry into the present administration of vaccination before deciding to make any further sacrifice of the very limited amount of pressure which can still be exercised on indolent and neglectful parents. Such an inquiry would be of a very different nature from that conducted by the Royal Commission. In that case the time of the Commission was mainly occupied in listening to a mass of incongruous evidence, tendered by persons, all of whom were influenced by an invincible prejudice against vaccination, and who followed one another in a tedious sequence, which might have been kept going

until the present time had not the learned President of the Commission, after 7 years experience of it, put his foot down

firmly and closed the inquiry.

For the purposes of such an inquiry as is now invited the evidence would require to be mainly that of those who have been employed in the administration of the Act. They know well enough how the difficulties arise and could suggest how they could be best relieved.

### The Need for Education.

On these points we want more light before we can safely discard the armour with which we have hitherto defended ourselves, however imperfectly, against epidemic small-pox. And the light we need is not only that which at present is diffused amongst a comparatively small number of professional experts and which requires to be collected and focussed by formal inquiry. It is equally essential, if the results of such inquiry are to be appreciated by the general public, as they must be if we are to avoid the mistake of legislating in advance of public opinion, and if the causes which have conduced to render vaccination unpopular with some are to be effectually removed, that the public at large should be educated in the merits of the vaccination question to a much greater extent

than they have been hitherto.

Until the establishment of the Jenner Society in 1896 there had been absolutely no organised effort to promote this desirable object, although an organised propaganda against vaccination had existed for many years. During the 10 years the Society has now existed it can fairly claim to have done something to make known the incalculable benefit which Jenner, by his introduction of vaccination, conferred upon the human race. The Society has addressed many hundreds of letters to public journals in all parts of the country for the purpose of exposing the misrepresentations published in those journals by antivaccinators. It has circulated many thousands of publications in defence of vaccination, both in response to applications for them and by independent distribution in localities in which they appeared to be needed. It has obtained one of the most important testimonies in support of vaccination ever given, the declaration signed by more than 1100 British Medical Officers of Health, to which reference has been made above. And its efforts have received the approval of the Local Government Board, the medical profession, and the press.

If what it has done in this direction is much less than could have been desired this must be attributed in some degree to want of the material resources which are indispensable to the

prosecution of all organised effort.

### How the Cause of Vaccination is Handicapped.

The opponents of vaccination are infused with the enthusiasm with which iconoclasm always inspires its votaries and prompts them to make personal sacrifices in order to give effect to their cherished views. They have also succeeded in enlisting the sympathy of a few wealthy persons, without whose contributions, liberally expended\* in well planned propagandist machinery, the agitation would never have acquired the influence it now claims.

The position thus cleverly won has been adroitly used to impress the world at large, and especially candidates for parliamentary and municipal office, that the extent and influence of the movement are much greater than they really

are.

In face of these tactics the cause of vaccination has been handicapped by the fact that it represents an established institution. As in the case of other establishments, the public are slow to accept the responsibility of supporting work which they are only too ready to assume should be maintained by the State, the Government, the Local Government Board or some other impersonal entity which is supposed to have an interest in "running the machine." Even the medical profession, of which most of the members would gain much more if small-pox were allowed to run riot, as it did in pre-Jennerian times, is frequently suggested as the proper body to find the funds for educating the public to appreciate a prophylactic from which doctors generally derive so little financial advantage. In view of these misconceptions it is well that it should be known that, so far as the Jenner Society is concerned, it has received singularly little pecuniary support from that small section of the medical profession which has a pecuniary interest in the maintenance of vaccination, viz: the Public Vaccinators, and that had it not been for efforts and funds to which non-practising members of the profession, who have no pecuniary interest whatever in vaccination, have largely contributed, the opponents of the practice would have been left in undisturbed possession of the field and would have been free to prejudice the public mind against Jenner's beneficent discovery to an even larger extent than they have already done.

### The Path of Duty.

Whatever may be the issue of the action which Parliament may take in regard to compulsion there can be no question as to the necessity of meeting the agitation against vaccination itself, so long as it continues to be carried on. That the country which gave birth to this great discovery and from

<sup>\*</sup> The published accounts of the Anti-Vaccination League show that it has at its disposal an income of not much, if at all less than £1000 a year.

which it has spread throughout the world, to the inestimable benefit of the whole human race, should be left a prey to the unchallenged vituperation of Jenner and to the mischievous depreciation of his beneficent work, would be as grave a discredit to it as it would be a deplorable abnegation of duty. And the more so, because the opponents of vaccination are generally as bigoted in their opposition to other modes of preventive medical treatment as they are to vaccination, which is the foundation stone on which these later developments of it rest.

Under these circumstances, therefore, the Committee of the Jenner Society feel that so long as they receive, as they have hitherto done, the approval and support of those who have shown by their contributions to its funds their appreciation of the work the Society has carried on, they have no alternative but to strive to maintain it.

During the past year their efforts in this direction have, as in previous years, been much restricted by want of efficient assistance in the secretarial branch of the Society's work. The Honorary Secretary has devoted as much time as he could spare from other claims on it to meet the continual calls made upon the Society and to cope with the large amount of correspondence that demands attention.

The Committee have again to express their regret that the funds at their disposal are insufficient to allow of providing the skilled assistance which is necessary to enable justice to be done to this branch of the work, and thus to proportionately

increase the usefulness of the Society.

Indeed, had it not been for the renewed liberal assistance of their valued President, the Earl of Ducie, and also of Lord Lister, a large benefactor in the past, the income of the Society during the past year would have been quite inadequate to meet the demands made on it.

To these noble Lords as well as to the other subscribers and donors who have contributed during the year to the support of the Society, the Committee return their grateful thanks, and they appeal to those who have not hitherto assisted in this good work for their help, in the belief that it is a phase of the educational enlightenment of the country which cannot be neglected without the certainty of neglect being followed by disastrous results.

H. D. M. SPENCE-JONES,

(Dean of Gloucester)

Chairman of Executive Committee.

G. E. LLOYD-BAKER, Treasurer.

FRANCIS T. BOND, M.D. LOND.,

Hon. Secretary.

THE JENNER SOCIETY.

# Financial Statement for the Pear ending Dec. 31st, 1905.

£ s. d.  Subscriptions and Donations:—  The Earl of Ducie, F.R.S.  Lord Lister, F.R.S.  Miscellaneous (as per list)  Ly 12 o  Balance due to Treasurer  Egg 11 10  Egg 11 10	Expenditure.
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Colonel Hesketh, Astley Bridge	Bolton					0	5	0
Dr. W. P. Herringham, M.D., I						I	I	0
,, Hickman, Newbury, Berks	Jonaton					0	5	0
Misses Hicks, Gloucester						I	I	0
Dr. Hicks, Loughborough						0	5	0
Mr. Alfred Hill, J.P., Birmingh	am ···		•••				10	0
" Lewin Hill, Kingston-on-Tl		•••		3.3	•	0		0
Dr. E. W. Hope, M.D., Liverpo			• • •	•	• • •	I	5	0
" J. B. Hurry, M.D., Reading	001						10	
Mr. Evan Jones, Aberdare					• • •			0
Dr. Kennedy, Salford						0	5	0
Mr. Jas. Russell Kerr, J.P., Glo	ncertor		• •		•••	0	5	0
						I	I	0
Dr. Leak, Winsford, Cheshire	adwell M	anor	Glone	actor			10	0
Mr. Egerton E. Leigh, J.P., Bro			Glouce	ester			10	6
Dr. Lockhart Livingstone, Hurs						0	5	6
Dr. R. Macartney, Cinderford, C							10	6
" Mackinnon, Cirencester			••			0	5	0
" Mapleton, Gowndhurst, Kei						0	5	0
" Marsh, Macclesfield						0	5	0
" Marshall, Mitcham	. Honto					0	5	0
Miss V. Martineau, Park Corner				••		3	0	0
Dr. J. Mason, Windermere, M.I.						0	5	0
Col. Mason, Kirkby Stephen						0	0	6

				f	S.	d.
Dr. Mitchell, Bradford			 	 õ	5	0
" F. E. Nichol, M.D., Margate			 		10	6
Major-General O'Connell, Bromley			 	 0	10	
Mr. Stephen Paget, F.R.C.S., Lon	don		 	 0	5	0
" J. E. Paul, Leckhampton, Glo			 	 0	5	0
Rev. W. C. Plenderleath, Dawlish			 	 I	I	0
Miss Edith Pollock, Putney, Londo			 	 0	5	0
Mr. G. N. Price, Croydon			 	 0		0
Dr. J. P. Purvis, Greenwich			 	 0	5	0
Mr. A. Salter, Plumstead			 	 0		6
Dr. J. P. Scatchard, M.B., Tadcast	er, Yor	k	 	 0		0
Mrs. Scott, Hampstead			 	 0	5	
Mr. Chas. Scott, Gloucester			 	 2	-	0
" Percy Shelley, Shortlands, Ker	nt		 	 0	5	0
Mrs. Teacher, Glasgow			 	 0	10	0
Dr. J. H. Teacher, M.D., Glasgow			 	 I	I	0
" May Thorne, M.D., London			 	 0	10	0
Mr. R. V. Vassar-Smith, J.P., Glou	icester		 	 I	I	0
Dr. Watterson, Morecambe			 	 0	5	0
" E. T. Wilson, M.B., Cheltenha	m		 	 0	10	0
" J. S. Wilson, Brierfield			 	 0	5	0
Mr. B. Wilson, Sedburgh			 	 0	10	0
Dr. Wrench, Baslow			 	 0	5	0
Mr. H. G. Yatman, Bournemouth	11		 	 I	0	0
" H. Zachary, Cirencester			 	 0	5	0
Anonymous			 	 0	10	0

# THE JENNER SOCIETY.

### ESTABLISHED 1896.

### Dresident:

THE EARL OF DUCIE, F.R.S., Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire.

### Thonorary Vice=Presidents:

THE RIGHT HON. LORD LISTER, F.R.S., D.C.L., LL.D., President of the Lister Institute.

SIR WM. HUGGINS, K.C.B., D.C.L., LL.D., late President of the Royal

Society.

SIR WILLIAM TURNER, K.C.B., D.C.I., F.R.S., Principal of the University of Edinburgh, late President of the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom.

G. B. Ferguson, M.D., late President of the British Medical Association (1901-2).

### Executive Committee:

Chairman: THE VERY REV. DONALD SPENCE-JONES, D.D., Dean of Gloucester.

E. DYKES BOWER, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Gloucester Infirmary. H. C. Foster, The Rev. Canon, Vicar of All Saints', Gloucester.

WALTER LLOYD, THE REV., Unitarian Church, Gloucester. E. T. WILSON, M.B. Oxon, F.R.C.P., Senior Physician to the Cheltenham Hospital; with the

### Ibon. Treasurer:

G. E. LLOYD-BAKER, Hardwicke Court, Gloucester,

and

### Ibon. Secretary:

Francis T. Bond, M.D., B.A. Lond., F.R.S. Edin., Medical Officer of Health to the Gloucestershire Combined District, Gloucester.

### OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

The first object of the JENNER SOCIETY is to commemorate the name and work of EDWARD JENNER, M.D., F.R.S., of Berkeley, in the County of Gloucester, and to bring home again to the mind of the nation, in a time of growing forgetfulness of his great inquiry, the immense benefit he conferred by it upon mankind.

In furtherance of this object the Society seeks to collect, diffuse and popularise knowledge in regard to the history of small pox before Jenner's time and to the evidence which has been accumulated, during the last hundred years, of the value of vaccination as a preventive of that disease, so much of which is embedded in publications which are not available for popular use. It aims to do this by the production and distribution of approved literature on these subjects, and especially by the circulation of the substance of the Report of the Royal Commission on Vaccination, and of the evidence on which it is founded, in such a form as will adapt it for popular appreciation. It also endeavours, so far as may seem necessary, to reply to and expose the misstatements and fallacies so persistently circulated by the opponents of vaccination in the public journals, at public meetings and elsewhere, to the influence

of which is mainly attributable the hold which this mischievous

agitation has obtained on the public mind.

But the need for a diffusion of knowledge of this kind is not confined merely to Vaccination and small pox. It applies no less to all those forms of communicable disease of which small pox is only a single illustration and to those modes of dealing with them of which Jennerian Vaccination is but the type. The researches of Pasteur, Lister, and Koch, following in the footsteps of JENNER, as well as those of others who in all parts of the world are working on the lines which he laid down, are leading to discoveries which we have every reason to believe will not be less beneficent in their results than vaccination has been in regard to small pox. These applications of science have already been attacked with no less fanaticism than has been directed against vaccination and by precisely the same class of people. For the opponents of vaccination have clearly seen that these discoveries so strengthen and enlarge the argument for vaccination that the names and work of JENNER, PASTEUR, and LISTER must stand or fall together.

In these respects, therefore, the work of the Society will be seen to be primarily an educational one, the importance of which cannot well be over-estimated, and it appeals for aid in promoting this work to all who recognise how largely the opposition to vaccination is founded on ignorance and nurtured

by misrepresentation.

In connection with this branch of the work of the Society it is desired to form a comprehensive library of Jennerian literature. No public collection of the kind exists in this country, though more than one such is to be found abroad.

There are other directions in which the Society will find scope for useful work, the realisation of which must depend in a great degree on the resources which it may have at its disposal.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Every person subscribing annually a sum of not less than five shillings is a member of the Society. A donation of not less than £5 in one sum, constitutes the donor a Life Member.

Members of the Society are entitled to copies of all publications issued by the Society on its own account; to the loan of any works in the Society's Library and of the Society's collection of slides for lecture purposes, on conditions to be arranged by the Executive Committee; and to such assistance and information as they may desire and as the Society can afford them, in promoting the general objects for which it is instituted.

### PUBLICATIONS.

A list of the publications issued by the Society may be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, Gloucester.

### SOME OF THE

# PUBLICATIONS ISSUED JENNER SOCIETY.

->04

- Some Unimpeachable and Unanswerable Object Lessons in what Vaccination does to protect against Small Pox in a series of illustrations. Well-adapted for general circulation. 4 pp. 4to.
- 2. An instructive Object Lesson for Anti-Vaccinators, being the experience of Ossett School in an outbreak of Small Pox. pp. 4.
- 3. Common Sense on Vaccination, for the "Man in the Street."
- 4. What Lord Herschell (President of the Royal Commission on Vaccination) has said on the subject of Vaccination. pp. 4.
- 5. A Plea for the Children; an exact reproduction of two pages of an old Register kept in the Parish Chapel at Pudsey, in Yorkshire, in 1787 and 1792, showing the prevalence of Small Pox in the last century and the special ravages it made amongst children; with other illustrations and descriptive notes. pp. 15.
- 6. What do we mean by "Vaccinated?" An answer to the objection so frequently raised by Anti-Vaccinists that Small Pox often attacks the vaccinated and that it is therefore useless. pp. 4.
- 7. Fifteen Reasons for believing in the efficacy of Vaccination as a preventive of Small Pox. pp. 16.
  - A concise statement of the case for Vaccination. Will be found useful for debating purposes.
  - "An admirable leaflet. It is temperate, logical, and lucid, and will, we trust, be widely circulated."—Lancet.
- 8. What the Royal Commissioners think as to the efficacy of Vaccination as a protection against Small Pox, and what they say as to the alleged injurious effects of Vaccination. pp. 2.
  - 9. The Effect of Vaccination in Infancy on the Mortality from Small Pox in Childhood: A Critical Test. pp. 11.
  - 10. Letter from Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., on Vaccination.

- 11. Facts about Small Pox and Vaccination. Issued by the Council of the British Medical Association. pp. 8.
- 12. A Question of Conscience. By Miss Violet Martineau.
  pp. 3. For distribution to Mothers.
- 13. "Sanitation and Small Pox: Declaration by over 1100

  Medical Officers of Health" Backed by "Why we should rely on

  Vaccination with Sanitation to prevent Small Pox and not on Sanitation alone, as Anti-vaccinators advise." pp. 2.
- 14. Vaccination or Sanitation? By Dr. J. C. MacVail. pp. 16.

  A telling answer, drawn from the experience of Glasgow, to
  the Anti-vaccinator's assertion that "Sanitation" is an
  effective substitute for Vaccination.
- 15. Dr. Alfred Russell Wallace, LL.D., on "Sanitation and Small Pox." By the Rev. Walter Lloyd. Re-printed from the Westminster Review. pp. 16.
- 16. A Historic Epidemic: The Gloucester Epidemic of Small Pox (1895-6). Statistics and Diagrams. Showing how the Epidemic arose and how it was stamped out by Vaccination. pp. 3.
- 17. The Truth about the sanitary condition of Gloucester, and how it has been misrepresented by leading Anti-vaccinators. pp. 12.
- 18. The Lancet on the Gloucester Epidemic of Small Pox as misrepresented by the Anti-vaccinators. pp. 27.
- 19. "A Memorable Incident of the Gloucester Epidemic," backed by "The Experience of the Liverpool Small Pox Hospital."
  - 20. "The Cry of the Children." By Mrs. Reginald Bray.
  - Methods and Arguments. By G. Udney Yule, F.S.S. pp. 5.
  - 22. The London Epidemic of Small Pox in 1891. Some Statistics and Comments. pp. 8.
  - 23. "Dr. Creighton confuted by the experience of Gloucester," backed by "Anti-vaccinists at variance, or how Drs. Creighton, Crookshank, and Collins disagree as to the protective power of Vaccination." pp. 2.

LIBRAR Specimens of any of the above may be obtained at the price of id. each, with id. for postage, or 2/- for the series, post free, on application to 25 MAY 1954 the Hon. Secretary, Jenner Society, Gloucester.