

# CAUSED TWO DEATHS

## Mrs. Henderson Appears at Hearing On Two Measures

Compulsory vaccination of citizens of Fitchburg during the recent epidemic of smallpox there resulted in two deaths and 52 cases of serious illness. Mrs. Jessica Henderson of Boston told the legislative committee on public health yesterday at a hearing on bills, one to abolish compulsory vaccination and the other to extend it from public to private schools.

The deaths, she charged, were due to vaccination and not to the disease. She told the committee that the father of one of the deceased victims was persuaded to remain away from the hearing through undue influence exercised by a doctor.

Dr. Samuel B. Woodward of Worcester, sponsor of the petition to extend compulsory vaccination to private school children, presented photographs of two mild cases of smallpox taken during the Fitchburg epidemic. Photographs of other cases were presented by Mayor Carriere of Fitchburg.

Carriere said that Fitchburg's 40,000 residents were vaccinated in four and a half days, and he denied that any deaths had resulted. A few conscientious objectors from outside the city, he said, were the only ones to protest against the vaccination ordered by the health authorities. He said that the 60 cases in his city were developed by unvaccinated people.



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