

## PUBLIC WARNED OF INOCULATION TEST

### Facts as to Effects of "Schick Test" Would Stir Indignation If Known, Says Official of Medical Liberty League

Specially for The Christian Science Monitor

BOSTON, Massachusetts — Knowledge of the facts concerning the operation of the "Schick Test" and the toxin-antitoxin injections for the alleged prevention of diphtheria, would cause the public to indignantly protest against the plans of certain groups of the medical profession to promote this test and to take steps to prevent any further experimentation in this direction, says Mrs. Jessica Henderson, vice-president of the American Medical Liberty League.

The "Schick Test" has been performed on public school children in various parts of the United States, says Mrs. Henderson, and the American Medical Liberty League has taken steps to ascertain the results, which have been far from its alleged objects, injuries and fatalities having been reported in a number of instances. These results, according to Mrs. Henderson, may be easily verified.

The Medical Liberty League announces that a campaign to administer this toxin-antitoxin treatment has been opened in Massachusetts and that medical physicians are reporting that groups of children in the public schools of an increasing number of cities are being subjected to the test. Mrs. Henderson believes that the public should be thoroughly warned of this movement and that people not only should stand on their rights but also ascertain the bad effects which have followed efforts to inaugurate the test in other parts of the country.

Mrs. Henderson points out that public meetings for the purpose of explaining the "Schick Test" are being held in schools throughout the state and that one of these recently was held in the hall of a school building in Lawrence. It was announced, she said, that the test gave absolute immunity from diphtheria and was perfectly harmless. When the lecturing physician was asked regarding certain specific cases in the states of Georgia, Missouri and Illinois, in which fatalities from the treatment had been alleged, Mrs. Henderson said he made no attempt at denial but laid the results to "accidents" and "mistakes."

"How long shall we allow ourselves to be put off in this way?" asks Mrs. Henderson. "It is unquestionably the duty of parents to look into this matter before they allow their children to be touched, however fair the claim made. Let us prevent such tragedies as have occurred in other states of the Union. It must not be forgotten that the manufacturers of virus, serums and antitoxins are in the business for profit, and that it is the people's money that is paying for this toxin-antitoxin treatment, when performed on school children "free of charge."