

DEAR SIR,—

Savoy Palace Hotel, Alexandria, 7th December, 1915.

Taking advantage of your kind offer to do anything you can for me in England in connection with our Expeditionary Force, I shall be glad if you will make it convenient to meet the Hon. Thomas Mackenzie, High Commissioner for New Zealand, Westminster Chambers, 13 Victoria Street, S.W., whom I have informed of your approaching visit, and arrange with him as to whether it is advisable to supply New Zealand with vaccines for the treatment of typhoid, paratyphoid, and cholera, already mixed for injection in one dose as used by the War Office; or whether it would not be equally satisfactory to forward to the Government Bacteriologist, Wellington, New Zealand, cultures so that he could prepare the vaccines and mix them himself according to the formula set out in the *British Medical Journal* of the 13th November. I am writing to Mr. Mackenzie on this matter, knowing that he will be glad to confer with you on any matter that concerns the health of our troops. He will, of course, arrange for the payment of any expenses the authorities at Millbank might be put to in this connection.

Again expressing my thanks to you for undertaking this commission on behalf of the New Zealand Government, and for the report you and your colleagues furnished to Surgeon-General Babbie, V.C., in reply to my inquiries of the advisory committee made through him,

I am, &c.,

R. HEATON RHODES, Lieut.-Colonel,

Representing the New Zealand Government.

Lieut.-Colonel L. S. Dudgeon, R.A.M.C.,

Member of the Advisory Committee for the Prevention of Epidemic Diseases, Alexandria.

Westminster Chambers, 13 Victoria Street, London S.W.

DEAR SIR,—

13th January, 1916.

I duly received your letter of the 7th ultimo, and fully concur in the importance of the matter of suitable vaccine for inoculation against typhoid and paratyphoid.

Lieut.-Colonel Dudgeon called at my request, and we went fully into the matter, with the result that I despatched a cable to the Government on the 31st December, of which I enclose a copy. No reply has yet been received.

As Lieut.-Colonel Dudgeon's experiences on Asiatic diseases will no doubt be valuable, it is proposed that he be appointed to the consulting staff of the New Zealand Military Hospital at Walton. This is now receiving attention.

I am, &c.,

THOS. MACKENZIE.

Lieut.-Colonel R. Heaton Rhodes, New Zealand Base Depot,
Agricultural Hall, Gezirah, Cairo, Egypt.

EXTRACT FROM CABLEGRAM sent to the DOMINION GOVERNMENT by the HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NEW ZEALAND on the 31st December, 1915.

COLONEL RHODES reports that typhoid vaccine employed for inoculation of our troops before leaving New Zealand has not been efficacious. The disease has been of a severer type than amongst the Imperial troops, and the mortality has been considerably higher—in fact, more than double. War Office now recommends that all troops should be inoculated against typhoid and paratyphoid owing to prevalence later disease in Egypt, Mudros, and Gallipoli. It is recommended that none of our troops be inoculated with the vaccine prepared in New Zealand. War Office has now decided to supply for use from 1st January, 1916, a combined typhoid and paratyphoid vaccine which can be sent to you immediately, and also some to meet transports at Colombo. Telegraph instructions immediately.

SIR,—

War Office, London S.W., 26th December, 1915.

I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that it has been decided to substitute a mixed typhoid and paratyphoid vaccine for the anti-typhoid vaccine at present in use. The new vaccine will be taken into use from the 1st January, 1916, and all stocks of the old anti-typhoid vaccine in hand on that date should be wasted.

In the event of a man having received the first dose of the old anti-typhoid vaccine within ten days prior to the 1st January, 1916, the second inoculation should be given with the new mixed typhoid and paratyphoid vaccine ten days after the first inoculation.

The mixed typhoid and paratyphoid vaccine will be stored at the Royal Army Medical College, and can be obtained on requisition from the Officer in Charge, Vaccine Department, Royal Army Medical College, Grosvenor Road, London S.W. The requisition should state clearly for how many men vaccine is required. Full printed instructions for its use will accompany each consignment.

In this connection I am to draw your attention to the fact that in every case where it is possible the two-dose system should be carried out, as the protection afforded by this system is considerably greater than when the one large dose is used.

A record of each inoculation will be made on the inside right-hand cover of Army Book 64 (Soldiers' Pay-book) as follows:—