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INSTITUTE SCORED FOR NOT USING NEW POLYVACCINE METHOD

The article, "New Method of Polyvaccine Production," supported the new method of producing polyvaccine in the place of the outmoded foreign methods now utilized by the management of the Institute imeni Mechnikov.

The article found wide support among medical workers. Within the Institute, the article was discussed at a session of the ecientific council, at a party conference, and at meetings of a special commission.

L. G. Veber, director of the Institute, and I. A. Poyarkov, his assistant, did not explain why the new method has not been utilized and why the necessary changes in equipment were not made. Instead, they dedicated all their efforts (1) in justifying their erroneous practice of retaining the old method of polyvaccine production, (2) in proving the unprovable, and (3) illogically stating that the Topla and Raystrik method which they use is up to date and perfected.

The committee (F. G. Berngof, chairman) appointed by Weber has made no effort to determine the bost and quickest method to implement the orders of the Ministries of Public Health of the USSR and RSFSR, but instead attempted to prove that producing the preparation in an agar medium is the only possible method for the present. M. I. Khazanov, director, Main Sanitation and Anti-Epidemic Administration, Ministry of Fublic Health, REFER, pointed out the error of the commission in attempting to excuerate the management of the Institute.

In contrast to the evasive tactics of the commission, the scientific council. acknowledged the importance of the article and admitted that the polyvaccines now produced do not meet the standards of eqidemiological practice. The council also attempted to reconcile irreconcilable contradictions in order to avoid using the new method. Moreover, the council conclusively stated that there is no new method of producing polyvaccines. This is nothing more than an attempt to confuse medical workers because the new method is referred to in the decrees of the Ministries of Public Health of the USBR and RSFSR and it is being used successfully in the Institute of Moddenlike and Microbiology imeni Gamaleya of the Academy of Medical Sciences wany oblast and republic institutes.

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The fact that criticism is not welcome at the Institute was also made clear in the discussions of the article. At the session of the scientific council, Moldavskaya sharply questioned the separation of the scientific force of the Institute from production. She was not allowed to finish speaking.

There is still another serious danger signal. The Institute imeni Mechnikov for a number of years has persistently avoided scientific work that would help improve the quality of antiphagin.

P. F. Zdrodovskiy, Active Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, recently sent a letter to the editors of Meditsinskiy Rabotnik in which he recalled that the All-Union Congress of Microbiologists had proposed that the problem of chemical vaccines from complete antigens be solved in the shortest possible time. He points out that 2 years after the Congress spoke, nothing has been done in the Institute to fulfill this requirement.

Several days ago, the Ministry of Public Health RSFSR received telegraphed reports from several localities concerning the increased reaction to polyvaccine. Khazanov appointed a special commission which, while acknowledging the preparation's poor quality, testified that it was still an experimental preparation. One might ask, "For how long?"

All these facts indicate that the management of the Institute imeni Mechnikov has not learned any lesson from the article and has disregarded the protests of medical workers. The position of the management can no longer be tolerated.

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