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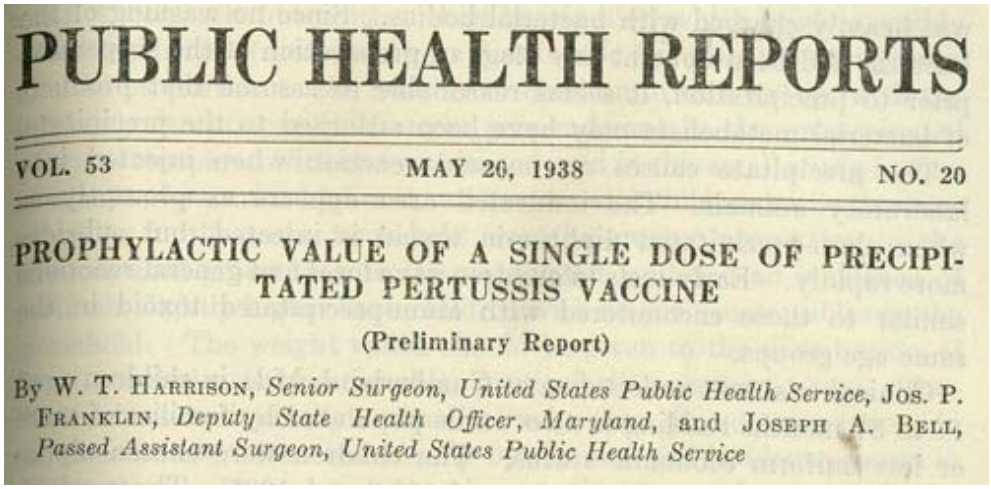

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PROPHYLACTIC VALUE OF A SINGLE DOSE OF PRECIPITATED PERTUSSIS VACCINE

(Preliminary Report)

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Clinical trial was undertaken at Cumberland, Md., in children aged 11 to 34 months residing in two wards populated by families of more or less uniform economic status. The children were chosen alphabetically from births recorded as of 1934 and 1935. Those whose surnames began with B, D, F, H, and so on, were left unvaccinated, whereas those whose surnames began with A, C, E, G, and so on, were injected subcutaneously in the arm with 1 cubic centimeter of the vaccine suspension during the period November 10 to 21, 1936.

Of the 241 children chosen for study, 50 were excluded from consideration on account of the following conditions: 2 children had history of pertussis prior to the beginning of study; 5 had received pertussis vaccine prior or subsequent to the beginning of study; 8 vaccinated and 5 unvaccinated children had surname initials designating them to the opposite group, unvaccinated and vaccinated respectively; 3 vaccinated and 2 unvaccinated children developed suspicious symptoms of pertussis but could not be classified definitely as cases or not cases; and 25 could not be located for observation after the forty-ninth week from the beginning of study. Of the 191 remaining children, 82 were in the vaccinated group and 109 in the unvaccinated group.