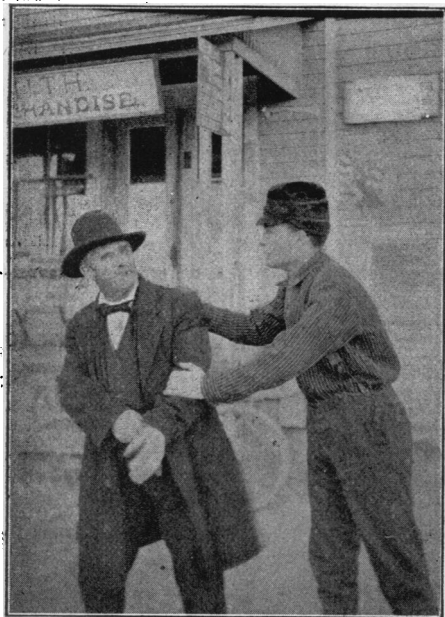


NATIONAL HEALTH COUNCIL'S HEALTH FILMS REVIEWS

The Health Films Committee, of the National Health Council, representing its member agencies, has been in active operation for about nine months, and during that time has made considerable progress in the work which was assigned to it. One of the most important tasks assigned to the committee by the council was the improvement by such means as might be practicable of motion pictures on health subjects and the encouragement of the distribution of excellent health films. Among other methods of improving the quality of films



on health subjects, the committee adopted the review and criticism method. Through this method the committee has been able to make practical suggestions to a number of producers for the improvement of their health films.

The committee's procedure is to study and analyze a motion picture from the standpoint of pedagogic value, scientific accuracy, and film technique. A special subcommittee then prepares a statement embodying those criticisms, both favorable

and adverse, which the committee finds to be important. If changes are found to be advisable, a statement is sent to the producer of the film to suggest how the film may be modified and improved. It is a satisfaction to be able to report that the committee's suggestions are ordinarily accepted and acted upon by producers. Reviews of films which do not require alteration will be published directly, and reviews of films for which changes are suggested will be published in due course after alterations have been made. The purpose of a review is to encourage distribution. No reviews are published of films which are considered to be generally unsatisfactory.

The interests of the National Health Council and its members are identical with those of producers of health films in that it is our wish as well as theirs to encourage the distribution of good health films and the production of better health films. Every organization and agency distributing or producing health films is therefore invited to cooperate with the National Health Council's Committee on Health Films in bringing to the attention of the Health Films Committee new films on health subjects or films which are in the process of production. The committee is endeavoring to review old films as well as new, but it is especially important to keep abreast with all new productions.

It may be mentioned finally that the committee stands ready to advise with any producer of health films upon problems arising in the course of production, and especially upon problems of pedagogic principles and scientific accuracy.

Below are given the first reviews to be released by the National Health Council for general publication.

The two films concerned were produced by members of the council, the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, and the American Red Cross, respectively. *Name of Film:* "An Equal Chance."

Issued by: National Organization for Public Health Nursing.

Length: 2 reels.

Distributed by: National Organization for Public Health Nursing, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

Purchase Price: \$110 for inflammable film; \$120 for nonflammable film.



Rental Price: \$3.00 per showing, plus cost of transportation.

Synopsis: Shirleyville township, swept by the influenza epidemic, found itself with only one physician, others having been called to military service. An appeal made to Nursing Association in neighboring city for a public health nurse—obliged to refuse at first—later a nurse is assigned to Shirleyville—Mr. Reynolds, a rich farmer of the district, misunderstanding the relation of nurse to community, attempts to appropriate her services exclusively for the care of his sick child—nurse points out that other families must be given an equal chance. Later Reynolds, completely won over by Nurse's success.

In the country school children are taught health habits by nurse and given examinations by a doctor—Shirleyville awakens to an appreciation of nurse—Reynolds induces State Health Department to send healthmobile to Shirleyville. Mass meeting is called to organize public health

nursing service—in the course of meeting healthmobile shows motion pictures demonstrating work of public health nurse in its various phases, including open air schools, among Indian reservations, among negroes, etc.—Community enthusiastically decides to retain nurse.

This film is designed to acquaint communities with and stimulate an appreciation of public health nursing; intended for adult audiences, theatrical and non-theatrical; demonstrates the work of the public health nurse in combating epidemics, as well as general community nursing activities; suggests preventive measures as well as curative; touches on organization of public health nursing in community; emotional appeal effective and well balanced.

Name of Film:

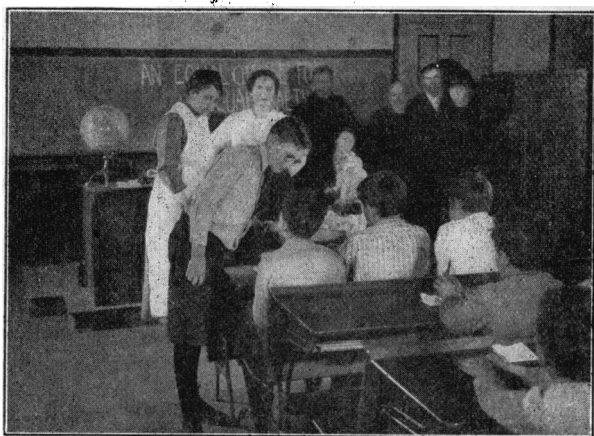
"Winning Her Way."

Length: Two reels.

Issued by: The American Red Cross.

Distributed by: Society for Visual Education.

Purchase Price: \$100 for used copies inflammable film.



Rental Price: \$4.00 per day plus transportation charges.

Synopsis: The story hinges upon the effort of a small town Red Cross Chapter to induce the village government authorities to take over the public health nursing service then conducted by the Red Cross. The work of a public health nurse in the

public schools and in homes is shown. The film depicts the helpful coöperation between the local doctor and the public health nurse. The public health nurse, through a demonstration of her value, both in emergencies and in her routine work, finally convinces the town authorities that the service should be taken over by the town. A romantic story runs through the film.

Criticism: The film appears to be suitable for all types of audiences and is especially excellent for use in small towns. The activities of a nurse, both in an emergency and routine duties are well and attractively shown. In motion picture technique the film shows some minor deficiencies in matters of lighting and in direction.



PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY NOTES

C. C. YOUNG

The Value and Mechanism of the Colloidal Gold Test.—In general paralysis the results of the colloidal gold test coincide with those given by the Wassermann reaction. There is a considerable degree of probability that in those cases in which the colloidal gold is positive with a negative Wassermann the gold test is the more delicate indication. The reacting substance in parietic fluids is not dialysable and resides in the globulin. The reaction in syphilitic diseases of the central nervous system depends on a physical change in the globulin associated with increased positive electric charge. This paper gives an excellent review of the literature.—John Cruickshank, *British Jr. of Exp. Path.*, 1, 71, 1920.



The Wassermann Reaction in Pregnancy.—Author studied the Wassermann reaction on the blood of 10,427 pregnant women. The tests were made during the period from June, 1915, to June, 1919, and formed a part of the routine examination of these women. The paper draws attention to the efficacy of cholesterinized antigens in the Wassermann reaction in pregnancy, and also gives some idea of the prevalence of syphilis among women of the dispensary class. Three cholesterinized antigens were employed, and sheep cells used as the indicator. The test giving complete inhibition of hemolysis is indicated as positive and the test showing partial inhibition is indicated as doubtful. The per cent of cases giving a positive reaction

was 4.18 and the per cent of cases giving a doubtful reaction was 3.85. Author concludes that a properly standardized cholesterinized antigen yields a negligible number of false positive reactions in child-bearing women.—W. A. Hinton, *Am. Jr. of Syph.*, 7, 155, 1923.



The Sachs-Georgi Syphilis Reaction and Its Relation to the Wassermann Reaction.—A total of 296 sera were examined by means of the Sachs-Georgi and Wassermann reactions. Two hundred and seventy cases (91.2 per cent) gave the same results with the two reactions; 26 cases (8.8 per cent) showed discrepancies, but none of the discrepancies can be regarded as serious, because the largest proportion (12 cases out of 26) occurred in the cases which are suspicious to the Wassermann test but negative to the Sachs-Georgi reaction, due apparently to the lesser delicacy of the latter reaction, owing to the difficulty of detecting slight precipitation. In general, differences have been observed only in the case of weak or doubtful reactions. Accordingly, it seems unlikely that the discrepancies are due to any essential difference in the nature of the two reactions. The precipitable substance in the Sachs-Georgi reaction consists mainly of the lipoids contained in the emulsion.—Tenji Taniguchi, *British Jr. of Exp. Path.*, 2, 21, 192.



The Kahn Precipitation Test for Syphilis.—A comparative study of the Wassermann test and the Kahn precipitation test was made