fluenza and acute upper respiratory tract infections. Once respiratory sickness had occurred the vaccine showed no significant effect on the length of sickness absence. In this trial, unpleasant reactions to the vaccine occurred in about a quarter of the inoculated, and, in particular, a large number of participants complained of general malaise which persisted for more than two weeks. These reactions were thought to be severe enough to induce consumer-resistance to routine annual immunization, which is thought to be neither justified nor acceptable in a healthy industrial population at the present stage of vaccine development. This in no way detracts from the suitability or acceptability of the vaccine to high-risk patients. Further research and testing, which is being carried out by pharmaceutical firms, is essential, and so, too, is the need for more controlled trials to evaluate changing vaccines in different population groups. -- Authors' abst.

26 A Comparative Trial of Oil-Adjuvant and Aqueous Polyvalent Influenza Vaccines. R. W. Howell and A. B. Mackenzie. Brit. J. Ind. Med. 21, 265-268 (Oct. 1964).

In the early autumn of 1963, 957 volunteers were inoculated with Admune (an oil-adjuvant polyvalent influenza vaccine) and 337 with Munevan (an aqueous polyvalent vaccine). A survey by questionnaire suggested that the oil-adjuvant vaccine was more acceptable to the inoculated than the aqueous one. The oil-adjuvant vaccine seemed less likely than the aqueous to provoke serious side effects in unknown reactors, and this more than offset the possibility of subcutaneous nodules not encountered with the aqueous vaccine. No difficulty was encountered in administering the oil-adjuvant vaccine, in recommended dose, to those giving a history of hay fever, asthma, and some other major allergies. On this occasion, reactions to both vaccines were fairly prevalent, and about a quarter of all those vaccinated complained of a feeling of malaise lasting at least two weeks. These reactions were thought to be severe enough to induce consumer-resistance to routine annual immunization, which is considered hardly acceptable in a healthy industrial population at the present stage of development. Medically the case for such immunization is not yet proven. There is a need for further vaccine development and for more controlled trials. If the efficacy of the oil-adjuvant vaccine is proved in clinical practice, this vaccine appears preferable to the aqueous type. -- Authors' abst.

27 Pneumonitis with Alveolar-Capillary Block in a Cattle Rancher Exposed to Epizootic Bovine Abortion. M. G. Barnes and H. Brainerd. New Engl. J. Med. 271, 981-985 (Nov. 5, 1964).

A case of fatal pneumonitis with alveolar-capillary block resembling an acute form of the Hamman-Rich syndrome is reported. An agent of the bedsonia group was isolated from cardiac blood obtained at autopsy. Retrospective investigation showed that the patient, a California rancher, had been the owner of the cattle in which epizootic bovine abortion had first been described. Subsequently, an agent of the bedsonia group was isolated from the aborted fetuses of the infected animals. These findings, together with the demonstration of complement-fixing antibodies to standard psittacosis antigen in the serums of 3 men who worked on the patient's ranch, suggest that the patient may have acquired the infection from a bovine source. There are 23 references. -- Authors' summary

28 Paraostial Atherosclerosis. Cases Involving Left Coronary Artery. A. F. Naji. Arch. Pathol. 78, 461-466 (Nov. 1964).

The proximal segment of the left coronary artery was studied in 100 autopsy cases. The atherosclerotic changes appeared to predominate in two zones: the superior ostial zone of the outer wall and the postostial zone of the inner wall. It is the author's opinion that the hemodynamic mechanism of the systolic pressure plays a significant role in the distribution of these lesions. -- Author's summary

29 Avian Atherosclerosis: Retardation by Pectin. H. Fisher, et al. Science 146, 1063-1064 (Nov. 20, 1964).

A highly significant retardation of spontaneous atherosclerosis was observed in 2-year-old cockerels fed on a standard diet supplemented with 5% pectin for 18 months. The pectin-fed birds excreted three times as much lipid extract and almost twice as much cholesterol as did the control cockerels fed the standard diet supplemented with 5% nonnutritive fiber. -- Authors' abst.

03121775