

## FRENCH SCIENTIST AIDES IN BATTLE ON WHITE PLAGUE

Evolves Vaccine Which May Increase Strength of Immunity.

By MILTON BRONNER  
NEA Service Writer

PARIS, July 28.—French medical men are hoping the name of Dr. Albert Calmette will be added to the galaxy of immortal scientists, by reason of a vaccine for tuberculosis with which he and his collaborators have been experimenting for some years.

Following the modest doctor's own injunctions, and not desiring to raise any false hopes among the world's suffering classes, they are all qualifying what they say and write about the Calmette vaccine with a very big "if."

### Increases Immunity

Briefly, Calmette has worked out a living culture of tubercular bacilli, so attenuated by laboratory processes that it will not give any animal tuberculosis. On the other hand his experiments lead him to believe that if it is administered to a young animal, up to now immune from tuberculosis, the vaccine will confer upon it complete immunity.

This wonder worker has briefly been named "B. C."

Calmette began his experiments with animals subject to tuberculosis. He inoculated young calves born of tubercular cattle.

### Still in Good Health

They were unharmed by the vaccine and were thereafter re-vaccinated once a year. One hundred and twenty-seven underwent the treatment, thanks to the intelligent cooperation of French farmers. All these animals have remained in good health.

The tests seemed to establish the vaccine was inoffensive and efficacious.

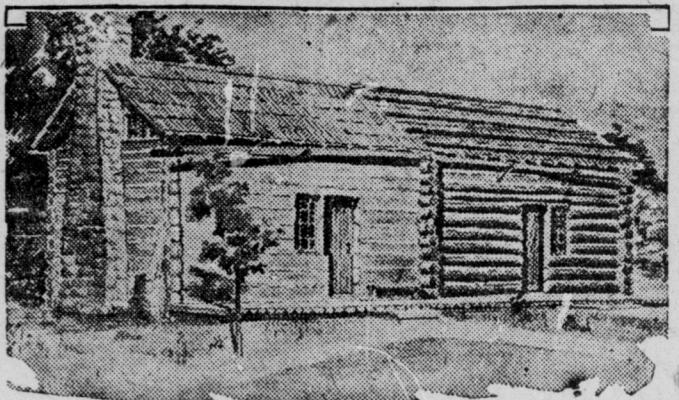
Calmette then experimented with anthropoid apes whose reactions to microbes and toxins resemble those of man. The same success attended these trials.

Emboldened by this and with the consent of the parents, he then vaccinated 247 nursing children. All are in good health, although many of them live in localities where children are liable to tuberculosis.

It is not claimed that the vaccine will cure tuberculosis in adults.

## MY OWN STORY LA FOLLETTE OPENS POLITICAL CAREER BY FIGHTING A 'BOSS'

BY ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE



LA FOLLETTE'S BIRTHPLACE—LOG HOUSE AT PRIMROSE, WIS.

naturally robust, had suffered. A marked physical change came to me later and I have grown stronger and stronger with the years.

### Father From Indiana

But there were a number of things that helped me in my canvass for the nomination. I was born in Primrose township, only twenty miles from Madison, where my father, a Kentuckian by birth, had been a pioneer settler from Indiana. I knew farm ways and farm life, and many of the people who were not acquainted with me personally knew well from what family I came—and that it was an honest family. The people of the county were a mixture of New Englanders, Norwegians and Germans. I had been raised among the Norwegians and understood the language fairly well, though I could speak it only a little—but even that little helped me.

Another thing helped me. Many of the farmers were disgruntled with the record of the district attorney's office, which had employed extra counsel in trying cases. I promised them with confidence that I would do all the work myself and that there should be no extra fees to meet.

Up to this point everything had been clear sailing. I was asking the people for an office of public service which they had the full power to give me; but I had not learned the very first principles of the political game as it was then played—indeed, as it is still played in a greater part of this country.

### The Boss'

The boss of Dane County was Col. E. W. Keyes, the postmaster of Madison. He was rarely spoken

of as the "Colonel" or "Mr. Keyes," but always then and for many years afterward simply as "the Boss."

I cannot now remember just how long I had been at my canvass before the Boss called me to account. My recollection is that I went in one day to the postoffice to get my mail. I was told the postmaster wished to see me. I had known him, of course, when a student in the university; he was one of the men who had spoken at the reception when I returned from the oratorical contest. I went to him therefore with great friendliness; but I found him in quiet a different mood.

"You are fooling away your time, sir!" he exclaimed roughly. He told me I was wasting my money, that I had better go to work, that I had not learned the first lesson in politics. He told me who the next district attorney of Dane County would be—and it was not La Follette!

Boss Keyes did not know it, but opposition of that sort was the best service he could have rendered me. It stirred all the fight I had in me.

I began to work more furiously than ever before. I kept asking myself what business Keyes or any other man had in question my rights of going out among the voters of Dane County, and saying what I pleased to them. And what had Keyes more than any other voter to do with the disposal of the district attorneyship?

I remember having had a similar overwhelming sense of anger and wrong and injustice in my early days in the university—and it led to a rather amusing incident—my first experience as an insurgent.

Speakers, I recall, were to be chosen by the students for some public occasion. At that time college life was dominated by two secret fraternities; they controlled the student meetings, and directed the elections. Most of the students, of whom I was one, were outsiders, or "scrubs."

### Open Election

Well, the fraternities made their slate and put it through. That night I visited every non-fraternity man in the university, and after several days' hard work we organized a sort of anti-secret society of some 200 members. Then we called a new meeting. The whole student body was there, including the fraternity men. We reconsidered the action of the previous meeting and had an honest and open election.

The same sort of feeling which dominated me in that boyish fight now drove me into a more vigorous and intense struggle in Dane County. I traveled by day and by night, I stayed at farmhouses, I interviewed every voter in the county whom I could reach. The Boss was active, too, but he was so secure in his undisputed supremacy and I was so young and inexperienced that he did not take me seriously nor realize until afterward how thoroughly my work was done.

There were five candidates at the convention. Quite unexpectedly, between the ballots, a Norwegian named Ell Pederson, a neighbor of ours, who called me "our boy," made a telling speech in my behalf. I can see him now—a big, black-headed, black-eyed man with a powerful frame, standing there in the convention. He was a natural-born leader, and he spoke as one having authority. It was to him, I think, that I owed my nomination, which came on the fifth ballot.

### Is Elected

This failure of his well-aimed machine astonished the boss beyond measure, and the fight for the nomination was nothing compared with the fight for election. Then, as now, the boss was quite willing to support the candidate of the opposite party rather than to have his own authority questioned. But the university boys went out and worked tooth and nail for me all over the county—without regard to politics—and I was elected by the narrow majority of ninety-three votes. In January, 1881, I was sworn in as district attorney.

At that time (1881) the country was in a state of political lethargy.

The excitement and fervor which accompanied the war had exhausted itself; reconstruction had been completed, and the specie payment resumed. The people had turned their attention almost wholly to business affairs. The West was to be settled, railroads constructed, towns founded, manufacturing industries built up, and money accumulated. In short, it was a time of expansion, and of great material prosperity.

But the war and the troubled years which followed it had left at least one important political legacy—one of the most powerful and united party organizations that ever existed, I suppose, anywhere in the world. I mean the Republican party.

I remember well the character of the ordinary political speeches of those years. Even well down into the eighties they all looked backward to fading glories, they waved the flag of freedom, they abused the South, they stirred the war memories of the old soldiers who were then everywhere dominant in the North.

This unreasoning loyalty to

the war, drew thousands of young men like myself into its ranks with the conviction that this was the party of patriotism.

It is a notable sign of robust political health in these days that every young man must have his conclusive reasons for voting the Republican or the Democratic ticket; old party names have lost much of their persuasiveness: men must think for themselves—and in that fact lies, the great hope for the future of the nation.

But if the old party and the thrill of the old party slogans were still dominant, the issues of the new generation were beginning to make themselves felt. Already there had been severe local political storms.

As far back as 1872 there had been a Liberal Republican party organized to ask for civil service reform, and later a Labor party was organized to agitate the problems of capital and labor, the control of banks and railroads, and the disposal of public lands. In 1876 the Greenback party came into the field and rose to much prominence on a radical plat-

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