Tetanus Kills Two In County

By K. H. SUTHERLAND County Health Officer Another case of tetanus has occurred in Los Angeles County, bringing to eight this year the total number of per-sons to suffer this racking yet wholly preventable disease

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Tentanus nearly always is associated with a wound. Many people think that the only wounds likely to produce tetanus are punctures caused by rusty nails. There was not a single puncture among the eight cases.

Latest victim is a 63-year old man who scratched his arm while pruning a tree. One week later he was hospitalized in extremely grave pitalizeu ... condition.

FIVE SMALL children have FIVE SMALL children have been among those stricken by tetanus this year. Still hospi-talized but apparently recov-ering is a 3-year-old girl who cut the sole of her foot on a piece of glass. A 4-year-old boy had scratches so slight it was impossible to be sure how the tetanus germ had gained its hold. This ch il d lived. A 3-year-old was jabbed in the foot with a sharpened stick while playing with other children. He died of tentanus. children. He died of tentanus. Another 3-year-old crushed his finger in a slammed car door. He also had tentanus, but live but liv

The remainder were adults who suffered equally undra-matic injuries: a thumb cut during a fall on a sidewalk; a finger cut on a power saw; an open ulcer on the arm re-ulting from the trop utgorous sulting from the too vigorous scratching of an itch. Two of these recovered, one died.

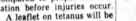
THERE WAS no type of ininterest was no type of in-jury common to the afflicted eight. The one thing they did have in common was that none---not one---had been imnone—not one—had been im-munized against tetanus.

Tetanus is caused by a ba cillus which grows in the deep, airless part of wounds and produces a toxin (poison) affecting the nerves. The most common early symptom of tentanus is a painful spasm of the jaw muscles, account-ing for the common name "lockjaw." Later the sufferer may be thrown into violent convulsions by any noise or by the slightest jarring.

The tetanus germ lives in the intestines of grass eating animals and is very pre-valent in barns, stables and farmyards. However, even in completely urban areas the germ is widespread in soil and street dust since most yard and garden soils are per-lodically treated with animal manure. . . .

IMMUNIZATION and pro-perly spaced booster injec-tions afford very affective protection against tetanus. In the unprotected, however, this disease is difficult, ex-pensive and often impossible to cure to cure.

Lack of Immunization car-Lack of immunization car-ries secondary difficulties also. Unimmunized persons who suffer wounds which are likely to be tentanus produc-ing must have an injection of antitoxin, a serum giving some immediate short-term protection. This material may protection. This material may be made with horse serum, to which sensitive persons may have serious reactions. That made with human serum is preferrable but expensive. Antitoxin is a poor second best weapon against tetanus compared to proper immuni-zation before injuries occur. A leaflet on tetanus will be sent free to anyone sending a written request to the Divi-





a written request to the Divi sion of Health Education, Los Angeles County Health Dept. 220 North Broadway, Los Angeles 12.

Applications Will Be Taken By Law School

The Law School of Pacific Coast University of Long Beach, 236 Newport Ave., is now accepting applications for admission to its first-year class.

Robert W. Parkin, a grad Robert W. Parkin, a grad-uate of the school and deputy city prosecutor of the City of Long Beach has been ad-ded to the faculty. He will teach criminal law and procedure. Call GE 9-7346, for more

information.





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