

6. They used blood letting to relieve swellings and pain.
7. They were familiar with the pharmaceutical processes of percolation or leaching, extraction, torrefaction, destructive distillation, decoctions and infusions.
8. They practiced immunization and later quarantine.
9. They knew as much about the therapeutical effect of the drugs used by them as did their contemporary white men.
10. The California Indians evidently did not contribute anything of value to modern surgical, dental, medical and pharmaceutical practice, nor did they introduce anything of very great value to modern materia medica.
11. The history of California Indians is therefore more of a subject of interest than of any material value.

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THE WORK OF THE RED CROSS.

The disastrous floods which recently swept through broad paths in fourteen or more states are probably the worst in the history of this country as far as property loss is concerned. As every one expected, the Red Cross organized immediately for relief work. The after-effects of the flood, as every one knows, are extremely dangerous, because of sickness and disease. Slime covers the wide area from which the waters have receded and provides breeding places for carriers of disease.

The Red Cross, before the coming of the flood, was about ready to institute its chain of first-aid emergency stations along important highways. These are to be established in wayside stores, gasoline service stations, tourists' camps. Standard kits of first-aid supplies are to be placed in the hands of persons who have been given a general course in first-aid treatment. The treatment before the arrival of the doctor will be purely emergency in character and, doubtless, those who have the matter in charge realize the danger of assigning such responsibilities.

The subject of First-Aid was discussed by Pittsburgh Branch, A. P. H. A., several years ago (see April JOURNAL for 1931, page 397), and it may be well for all Branches to invite physicians and Red Cross workers to join in a program for such study and discussion. The aftermath of the flood emphasizes the importance of public health matters.