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EDITORIAL

A BLOOD MONEY EPIDEMIC

The April Journal will be devoted largely to an exposition of malpractice suits against surgeons in California.

The epidemic for "blood money" is taking some proportions. From the smallest village to the metropolitan cities over seventy black-mail suits against physicians and surgeons are now pending, and this applies to the regular qualified medical practitioner, and does not include the quacks, illegal practitioners nor criminal abortionists.

We have a roster of names of some seventy-five qualified medical practitioners in California who have been sued for malpractice during the past few years.

Quoting from the daily press, suits for the largest amounts are against:

Dr. A. W. Holsholt	\$250,000
Dr. Winslow Anderson and Dr. Ethan H. Smith	200,000
Dr. Charles H. Whitman	50,000
Drs. Kurtz and Cunnane	50,000

Dr. A. L. Cunningham	\$ 50,000
Dr. V. Ray Townsend	50,000
Dr. A. D. Pitts	37,000
Drs. Ethan H. Smith and S. S. Bogle	35,300
Dr. Charles L. Lowman	31,000
Dr. J. C. Negley	30,000
Dr. Fred G. Canney and Liberty Hospital.....	25,000
Dr. Ergo A. Majors	25,000
Dr. C. P. Pond	25,000
Dr. T. W. Huntington	25,000
German Hospital	25,000
Dr. Winslow Anderson	25,000
Dr. William R. Livingston	25,000
Children's Hospital	25,000
Drs. A. D. and A. W. Morton	25,000
Drs. A. H. Zeller and Walter Bremln	25,000
Drs. J. W. Wood and C. W. Ransom	25,195
Dr. E. L. Herrington	24,799
Dr. Paul Bresee	21,000
Dr. S. N. Jorgenson	20,000
Adler Sanitorium and Dr. Harold Brunn	19,678
Fairmont Hospital	15,335
Lane Hospital	15,000
Dr. W. M. Fearon	15,000
Dr. L. Henler	15,000
Dr. H. W. Chittenden	11,000
And many other surgeons and hospitals.	

An epitome of a recent trial will be published, with the evidence upon which a jury found a verdict against the surgeon for \$15,000. The name and occupation of each juror will be given, and how each voted. This is to show the profession and public the sense of justice of some jurors.

The "sponge" which is alleged to have been found, was not discovered by another surgeon at a subsequent operation, as the daily press had been inspired to publish, but is alleged to have been removed from the rectum of the patient by her nurse, Miss Clara Blood. But more of this anon.