VITAMINS

TIME TO GIVE BLACKLEY THE CREDIT HE DESERVES

21.09.2007

I am currently doing some historical studies if the vitamin hypothesis fits also the temporal relationship of allergy prevalence. While ordering RKI files for my next trip to the Berlin document center, I found that farming and lower allergy sensitization is known much longer than I anticipated. Here is Blackley CH. Experimental Researches on the Causes and and Nature of Cattarhus Aestivus (Hay-fever or Hay-asthma). London: Balliere, Tindall and Cox, 1873:

190 Experimental Researches on Hay-Fever:

§ 304. These statistics of the occupations of hay-fever patients bring out prominently the very curious circumstance that the persons who are most subjected to the action of pollen belong to a class which furnishes the fewest cases of the disorder, namely, the farming class. This remarkable fact may be accounted for in two different ways: it may, on the one hand, be due to the absence of the pre-disposition which mental culture generates; or, on the other hand, it may be that in this disease there is a possibility of a patient being rendered insusceptible to the action of pollen by continued exposure to its influence. If

The farming observation therefore does not go back to 1989 but to 1873, yea, yea.

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