

Cholera and smallpox health 'scares' of past

Last week when the Indiana University Student Health Center personnel operated a measles immunization clinic, it was not the first time IU was obliged to cope with a contagious disease among its students.

BACK IN 1833, when cholera spread from the East Coast to the Midwest, university officials declared a sudden two-week vacation and sent the students home. An Indianapolis student by the name of Huntington was stricken in Bloomington on the afternoon of Aug. 10, died that night and was hastily buried the next morning.

Every conceivable conveyance was pressed into service for the exodus from Bloomington, but some students had to resort to walking. Of three who headed north on foot, one, a boy by the name of Pogue, died at Martinsville.

The next health "scare" that IU officials

Looking back

By Rose H. McIlveen

had to take notice of happened at the turn of the century. A young woman, who had been exposed to smallpox, was shipped home on the train, but the hometown folks promptly sent her back to Bloomington on the first night train.

IU President Joseph Swain was very ill at the time, and so William Lowe Bryan, who later became the university president, took matters into his own hands. To send