

under conditions in some degree approaching those which obtain naturally, he points out that Drs. Jordan Russell and Zeit have demonstrated that most of the organisms die within three to four days, a few specially resistant cells possibly withstanding for a longer period the hostile influences in such waters. They experimented with sacs of collodion and parchment which—filled with natural water in-seminated with the bacilli—they suspended in various waters, testing thereafter for the presence of the organisms by culture media at short intervals, and finally by agglutinating serum. He also refers to Dr. Klein's latest experiments as to the duration of the bacilli in shell-fish. From these it has been deduced that oysters readily take up, into their interior, typhoid bacilli which have been introduced into their shells or the surrounding sea-water; that, if clean at starting, they rapidly clear themselves of the bacilli if they be kept in frequently changed clear water, but to a lesser extent if kept out of water; that, as they rapidly clear themselves of the coloi bacillus, whether kept in or out of water, this organism is foreign to them, and when present, must be due to surroundings; and that cockles and mussels embody the typhoid bacillus to a greater extent than oysters, especially mussels, but are more tardy in getting rid of them, especially cockles.

RHEUMATISM.

Dr. G. Morton Illman, in an article in *American Medicine*, believes that rheumatism is closely associated with an abnormal condition of the gastro-intestinal tract. He therefore holds that the treatment of the condition should not be reduced purely and simply to the administration of salicylates.

DIAGNOSIS OF BRONCHIAL ASTHMA IN INFANTS AND CHILDREN.

Dr. La Fetra says asthma in infants may simulate broncho-pneumonia or a fine bronchitis in their early stages when there is little or no secretion, rapid laboured breathing and feeble respiratory murmur, but the low temperature and the dry whistling rales that flit from one part of the chest to another will suggest the real diagnosis. If such symptoms follow or accompany gastric indigestion, urticaria, or attacks of sneezing, asthma is all the more probable. The existence of eosinophilia, together with the speedy recovery from the attack, and later recurrences will confirm the diagnosis.

Appointments.

MATRON.

Miss Alice Blomfield has been appointed Matron of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. She was trained at the London Hospital, and has held the position of Sister and Night Superintendent at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, and is at present Lady Superintendent of the East-end Mothers' Home, Commercial Road, London, E.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR.

Miss Burford, who for a number of years has been connected with the Galashiels Branch of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, has been promoted to be Assistant Inspector of Queen's Nurses in Scotland.

A French Doctor on English Nurses.

In connection with the visit of English physicians and surgeons to Paris, which is taking place this week, it is interesting to note that Dr. Lucas Championnière, who is the surgeon of the Hotel Dieu in that city, states that what struck him most, when he visited this country last October, was the efficiency and personality of British nurses.

Our Five Guinea Prize Competition.

A Prize of Five Guineas will be awarded each quarter by the Editor to the author of the best article on some practical nursing subject of about 2,000 words in length, with illustrations, and under the following conditions:—

1. Each competitor must enclose with his or her article a sealed envelope, outside which is written the title of the article, and inside a piece of paper containing the name of the article and the author's full name and address.

2. The decision as to the winner of the Prize will be made by the Editor, and the decision must be accepted by each competitor as final and unquestionable. The Prize cannot be won twice in any one year by the same competitor.

3. The Editor reserves to herself the right to publish, if she thinks fit, any of the articles received for the competition; and in such an event will pay the author of such article the sum of one guinea, such article to become the property and copyright of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

4. Each competitor must be an annual subscriber to the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

The first Prize will be awarded on June 22nd, and all articles competing for it must be received by the Editor not later than SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH. The successful article will appear on July 1st.

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