

### Interpretation of Results.

Normal red cells will show some haemolysis in 0.44 per cent. saline and haemolysis is complete in 0.28 per cent. In most cases of acholuric jaundice a very different picture is found, haemolysis commences in very much higher concentrations of saline and is complete often before the normal haemolysis would commence. In a well-defined case of acholuric jaundice some degree of haemolysis may be present in the 0.64 per cent. saline and complete in 0.4 per cent. It is a recognised fact that often the only indication of an abnormal result is a trace of haemolysis in the higher concentrations and accurate and careful technique is absolutely necessary throughout the test.

As a check on the accuracy of the technique it is customary to run a parallel test on a normal blood at the same time; this should of course show no changes outside the recognised limits of variation of haemolysis.

#### NORMAL LIMITS OF HAEMOLYSIS.

Sodium Chloride %	0.28	0.32	0.36	0.4	0.44	0.48
% of Haemolysis	100-98	98-90	90-45	45-10	10-0	Nil

### Whale Insulin.

A DANISH medical student I met recently (writes a correspondent) gave me some information of the greatest interest to the scores of thousands of Britons afflicted with diabetes.

Denmark's insulin specialist, Dr. H. C. Hagedorn, has been down in the Antarctic on a Norwegian whaling factory ship to investigate the possibilities of extracting insulin from whales. Another Danish expert of high standing, Dr. W. Sterling, has announced:

"The pancreatic gland of the usual size of adult whale taken in those waters weighs 75 kilos, as compared with the 75 gr. of that of a pig (generally used for extraction). The process would be fairly expensive, but money should not be a decisive factor where saving life is concerned. In many countries persons who cannot buy the necessary insulin are dying every day. It is vital to increase production. The Norwegian Whaling Association is deeply interested, and asked me to examine the problem, along with Dr. Hagedorn."

Anent cetacean products (adds the correspondent), why should whale meat now be costing 25 cents—only slightly over a rs.—a pound in Canada but 3s. a pound here?

### U.N. Children's Fund Fellowships.

Some 47 doctors and nurses from 14 European and Middle East countries are assembled in London the first week in March. They are holders of Fellowships awarded by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, and they will spend three months in the United Kingdom studying social pediatrics, under arrangements made by the Ministry of Health and the British Council.

## Nursing Echoes.

HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of 104 nurses to be Queen's Nurses, 91 in England, 12 in Scotland and 1 in Northern Ireland.

ONE of the most coveted posts in the Nursing Profession must be that of the Matron and Superintendent of Nursing of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

This signal honour has been awarded to Miss Joan M. Loveridge, S.R.N., upon the retirement of Miss Helen Dey, C.B.E., R.R.C., S.R.N. Miss Loveridge received her training in the Hospital, and has held the positions of Night Sister, Ward Sister, Matron's Office Sister, and Second Assistant Matron in her training school.

We offer sincere congratulations to Miss Loveridge upon her appointment, and trust that she will follow the staunch leadership of her predecessor, Miss Helen Dey, in her democratic outlook and support of the best interests of the nurses in their national federation.

WE have pleasure in presenting on this page a reproduction of a remarkable piece of sculpture on an old house in Devizes, Wiltshire, showing the Greek God of Medicine, Æsculapius.

This son of Apollo and the nymph Coronis, dressed in a robe, and with a scroll in his left hand, has by his side the staff with the snake coiled around it.

This truly remarkable illustration was sent us by J. Denton Robinson.



Sculpture on an old house in Devizes.

similar to that to be held by officers of W.R.A.C., namely, former A.T.S. titles.

Pending the building up of the Army Nursing Service on its peacetime establishment, a Short Service Commission Scheme has been introduced in the Q.A.R.A.N.C. as an interim measure. Selected candidates will serve for a period of 2, 3 or 4 years, after the satisfactory completion of which a gratuity at the rate of £50 for each full year of service will be granted. During this time they may be considered for regular commissions.

HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY has expressed her willingness to accept the appointment of Commandant-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, formed as a Corps of the Regular Army on 1st February, 1949.

Present regular officers of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. will serve on existing terms in the new Corps. The change involves alteration in their legal status in that they become liable to the full provisions of the Army Act in common with male officers. They will be granted rank

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