

blood of the wrong Rh group: such immunisation may cause anæmia and jaundice to appear in their earlier off-spring who would have been healthy had the mother not become sensitised.

If it can be determined which women are Rh-negative and whether these Rh-negative women are forming Rh antibodies, it is possible to diagnose hæmolytic disease during the ante-natal period. Preparations can thus be made to have suitable blood ready to give to the baby, and in severe cases the baby can be removed by premature delivery from the harmful effects of the mother's antibodies.

Blood Products.

New experiments have also been made in the production of blood products. *Fibrin Foam* made from blood plasma can be used to control bleeding in operations where the tying of blood vessels is not advisable. It is also of great value in brain and spinal surgery where nerve cells, once destroyed, would not grow again.

Thrombin, also extracted from blood plasma, is a valuable agent for clotting blood and can be used either alone or in conjunction with Fibrin Foam.

Fibrinogen is an extract used in skin and nerve grafting as a kind of glue to keep the graft in position.

Gamma Globulin is another part of plasma, and scientists believe that gamma globulins have attached to them various antibodies also found in the body which it is hoped, by concentration to a powerful solution, may prove of value in combating diseases such as measles and hepatitis.

The Future.

Obviously, blood transfusion is destined to play an even bigger rôle than at present in saving life and combating disease. Transfusion is now an essential part of the country's ordinary health services. The National Blood Transfusion Service is responsible for supplying hospitals in all parts of the country with adequate supplies of blood; but it cannot succeed unless more people come forward as donors.

Lilies-of-the-Valley.

High in the Derbyshire peaks on a sloping hillside of lovely Monsal Dale, fragrant and wild lilies-of-the-valley are now in full blossom. Saturated with their elusive perfume, they hide shyly beneath tall trees, and, as if in self-defence, they bloom from stony and rocky slopes, so that only those who strive and climb may gather these treasures of Spring.

Monsal Dale is one of Derbyshire's most beautiful valleys. At its highest point, the panoramic view is truly magnificent. Sheer loveliness meets the eye from all points of the compass, where distant peaks run away into the misty blue of a summer sky. In the flower-decked valley below, the shining river winds away to the sea. Bluebells carpet the leafy woods, sweet violets hide in the grasses, whilst clumps of wild forget-me-nots are everywhere.

But to-day is for the sweet lilies-of-the-valley. It seems that all Sheffield is come to the Dale for them. The fragrance from these beautiful little flowers is everywhere apparent. They are in the buses, the trains, the churches and the homes. They rest gently in the hands of grubby children and of triumphant adults. Young lovers make the stony ascent to bestow their bouquets on their rapturous girl friends.

The joy these little flowers bring is a gift from the gods. Sweet lilies—beautiful Monsal Dale!! May all who are privileged to go lilying in Derbyshire's wondrous dales, strive just as ardently for those three lilies of Love, Hope and Courage.

Appointments.

Matron.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, KEIGHLEY.—Miss Nellie White, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Clayton Hospital and Dispensary, Wakefield; the Leeds Maternity Hospital; and the Liverpool Women's Hospital. Miss White has been Staff Nurse at the Leeds Maternity Hospital, and at the Bradford Royal Infirmary; Ward Sister at the County Hospital, Kendal; Night Sister and Home and Housekeeping Sister at the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases, Bath, and Assistant Matron at St. John's Hospital, Keighley.

LONG GROVE HOSPITAL, EPSOM.—Miss Catherine Munro, S.R.N., R.M.P.A., has been appointed Matron. She was trained in General Nursing at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, and at the Crichton Royal, Dumfries, in Mental Nursing. Miss Munro has been Assistant Matron, Sister Tutor and Home Sister at the County Mental Hospital, Stafford, and Deputy-Matron at the Long Grove Hospital, Epsom.

Sister Tutor.

WATFORD AND DISTRICT PEACE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, WATFORD.—Miss Phyllis M. Morse, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Sister Tutor. She was trained at the General and Eye Hospital, Cheltenham, and has been Staff Nurse at Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford; Assistant Night Sister at the Southend-on-Sea General Hospital; Ward Sister at the West Norfolk and King's Lynn General Hospital; Home Sister at the Leeds Maternity Hospital; Sister Tutor at the Birmingham and Midland Hospital for Women; Assistant Sister Tutor at the West Herts Hospital, Hemel Hempstead; and Assistant Sister Tutor at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital. Miss Morse received her Midwifery Training at the Bristol Maternity Hospital; and her Housekeeping Certificate at the Bristol Royal Hospital.

Book Review.

THE BIOLOGY OF BACTERIA.*

A. T. Henrici, M.D., Revised by Erling J. Ordal, Ph.D.

THIS work is for those taking one course in Microbiology, or as a general background for students wishing to specialise in any section later on.

In this third edition the topics have been rearranged, and many sections completely rewritten to include the latest findings in an ever-changing science.

Published in America, some words appear strange at first, as the letter f is used in place of our ph, though in scientific words the ph is used; the letter k takes the place of our hard c, both cases being a natural phonetic change. A short history of Bacteriology is given with a description of the various microscopes and their uses, including the more recent Electron Microscope. The many types of microbic life are described, their structure, growth and reproduction.

Cultivation of Bacteria, Effect of Environmental Factors, and the Metabolism of Bacteria have each a chapter to themselves.

Nurses, especially those with Fever Training, would find the sections on the Death of Bacteria, Disinfection, Infection and Immunity of particular interest.

Diseases of Plants, Molds, Yeasts, Microbes of the Soil, Water, Milk, many of which are helpful and necessary to life, and also Virus Diseases are dealt with in other chapters.

A book of 550 pages, with 150 illustrations, and a 20-page index, this text-book makes fascinating reading for those interested in any form of plant or microbic life.

N.D., S.R.N., M.B.C.N.

* George Harrap & Co. Ltd., 182, High Holborn, London, W.C.1; Price 25s.

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