

The editor has also added a number of notes of his own, giving additional references or explanations. So far two volumes have reached us; each volume will be sold separately, but subscriptions are invited by the publishers to the whole series, which will be completed in seven volumes. The subtitle of the first volume is *Dissymétrie moléculaire*; the well known portrait of Pasteur in his laboratory painted in 1889 by A. Edelfelt forms a frontispiece, and all the illustrations in the original papers are reproduced. The second volume is entitled *Fermentations et générations dites spontanées* and indicates how from the investigation of crystallography and molecular chemistry Pasteur was led on to the study of ferments, which he began in 1855. In this volume again all the illustrations in the original papers are reproduced. Pasteur has many monuments, but this collected edition of his own works will form his best.

#### GUY'S HOSPITAL REPORTS.

THE third quarterly instalment of this year's volume of the *Guy's Hospital Reports*,<sup>9</sup> though of the usual size, contains four papers only, two of considerable length and two quite short. In his study of the Guy's Hospital cases of chlorosis during the last thirty years Dr. J. M. H. Campbell also collects statistics from other sources showing the reality of the widespread belief that it has become much less prevalent; thus in 1916 the number of cases was less than a quarter of that in 1903. The main cause of this diminution is the improved condition of factory life and domestic service, which thus provide more opportunities for fresh air and exercise. There are many other points of interest arising out of the analysis of the cases at Guy's Hospital, and to some of these we refer in another column. Dr. G. W. Nicholson's continuation of his "Studies on tumour formation," occupying more than fifty pages, is devoted to the consideration of the heterotopic tumours, or those consisting wholly or in part of epithelium differing fundamentally in structure from that of the cells in the organs in which they have originated—for example, a duct carcinoma of the breast lined by keratinized squamous epithelium. As in his previous studies on tumour formation, the amount of research, reading, and thought devoted to this paper is remarkable, but it must be admitted that it is not exactly light reading. It provides another nail for the coffin which the author is thoughtfully constructing for Cohnheim's theory of tumours as the result of an embryonic cell-rest, or congenital malformation in its widest sense. In referring to Driesch's Gifford lectures he neatly remarks that, while this is not the place to criticize Driesch's philosophy, even were he able to do so properly, he (Driesch) appears "to have suffered from a defect not altogether unknown in biologists, in that he knew no pathology." Of the two shorter contributions that of Gordon Covell is on the laevulose tolerance test for hepatic insufficiency and its application in certain tropical diseases; the value of this test as claimed by H. Maclean and his co-workers is confirmed, and it is shown to indicate whether or not the liver is involved in cases of amoebiasis. The other paper, by the editor, is modestly crowded into smaller type, and describes hereditary familial congenital haemorrhagic nephritis occurring in sixteen individuals in three generations.

#### NOTES ON BOOKS.

VOL. VII of the *Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-18*<sup>10</sup> deals with the Australian Infantry Force in Sinai and Palestine, and is written by Mr. H. S. GULLETT. It is, we understand, the second volume of the set in order of publication. Of how many volumes the whole work is to consist we do not know, but it seems likely that the whole publication will certainly provide the average reader with pabulum for several months. But although lengthy, this official history, if the present volume be a fair sample of the whole, may well prove a popular success. One

<sup>9</sup> *Guy's Hospital Reports*, Vol. LXXIII (Vol. iii, Fourth Series, No. 3, July, 1923). Edited by Arthur F. Hurst, M.D. London: Henry Frowde, and Hodder and Stoughton. (Pp. 247-370; 15 figures, 19 charts. Price 2 guineas, post free for volume of 4 numbers; single numbers 12s. 6d. each.)

<sup>10</sup> *The Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-18*. Vol. VII: Sinai and Palestine. By H. S. Gullett. Sydney, Australia: Angus and Robertson; London: British Australasian Book Store, 51, High Holborn, 1923. (Demy 8vo, pp. 844; 77 maps, 83 illustrations.)

of the many pitfalls lying in the path of a conscientious historian, and especially of the author of an official war history, is that of writing in so dry a style as to fatigue any but the most earnest students; but this defect the recorder of the doings of the Australian Light Horse in Palestine and Sinai has managed to avoid by introducing into his narrative a great deal of detail of an easily comprehended kind. Often, perhaps, it is of little importance in itself, but it supplies the pages with a human atmosphere and will certainly make the volume attractive to friends of the individuals mentioned or described in connexion with it. The medical features of the long-drawn-out campaign in a sandy, fly-ridden country receive a fair degree of attention, and we gather that the medical officers, as also officers of other branches, sometimes found difficulty in getting their own way even when that way was a great improvement on the one initially imposed on them by the Higher (British) Command. But such experience was not peculiar to the Anzacs, either in Palestine or in other areas, nor was the Higher Command always unwise in opposing ostensible progress or in consenting reluctantly, if at all, to material modifications of equipment and the like. The author cannot be aware that some improvisations that he mentions with approval and credits by inference to the ingenuity of the Australian Light Horse were already time-honoured practices elsewhere when circumstances rendered them desirable. But this is of small importance, seeing that the part played by Australia in the war was indisputably magnificent. The volume is well illustrated by maps and photographs and includes an admirable index.

Under the title of *Youth and the Race*<sup>11</sup> the Fourth Report of the National Birth Rate Commission, 1920-23, with the chief evidence, has been published under the editorship of the secretary, Sir JAMES MARCHANT. The inquiry was conducted by a body of forty members, of whom fourteen belonged to the medical profession, and the evidence was given by thirty-one witnesses representing psychology, education, and medicine. The report, which precedes the evidence, is divided into two parts, the first dealing with the moral education and the second with the social responsibility of the adolescent. In view of the importance of the cinematograph in relation to adolescence—an importance equal if not superior to that of the press—it is interesting to learn that a psychological inquiry on this subject is now being carried out at University College; the results, it is hoped, will be published this autumn.

The monograph on functional albuminuria and nephritis in childhood,<sup>12</sup> by Professor LUDWIG JEHL, head of the children's department of the Vienna General Policlinic, is divided into four parts. The first is devoted to orthostatic lordotic albuminuria, a subject on which he is a well known authority; the second to functional nephritis, a term applied to atypical forms of lordotic albuminuria; the third to renal diseases, including acute and chronic nephritis, nephrosis, syphilis of the kidneys, paroxysmal haemoglobinuria, and tuberculosis of the kidneys; and the fourth to diseases of the urinary tract, including cystitis and pyelocystitis. A bibliography of the literature since 1912 is appended.

The small book entitled *Surgical "Don'ts" (and "Do's")*<sup>13</sup> is a collection of a number of articles all written in identical form by Mr. C. HAMILTON WHITEFORD of Plymouth, the first having been read before the South-Western Branch of the British Medical Association in 1910 and the latest having been published as recently as April in the current year. As a rule the advice given is supported by a brief statement of the reason why it is given and in some instances illustrations are given of the unhappy results of taking the opposite course.

A handbook on *Alcohol*,<sup>14</sup> by Mr. C. SIMMONDS, has been added to Pitman's series of books on common commodities and industries. It is written in the easy style appropriate to lectures, and there is hardly a question regarding the sources, the mode of manufacture, or the uses of alcohol which is not answered sufficiently to satisfy scientific and technical as well as popular readers.

<sup>11</sup> *Youth and the Race: the Development and Education of Young Citizens for Worthy Parenthood*. (Being the Fourth Report and the Evidence taken by the National Birth Rate Commission, 1920-23.) Edited by Sir James Marchant, K.B.E., LL.D. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner, and Co., Ltd.; New York: E. P. Dutton and Co. 1923. (Demy 8vo, pp. xx + 378, 15s. net.)

<sup>12</sup> *Die Funktionelle Albuminurie und Nephritis im Kindesalter*. By Professor Ludwig Jehle. Vienna, Leipzig, and Munich: Rikola. 1923. (Med. 8vo, pp. 63; 2 figures, 3 tables.)

<sup>13</sup> *Surgical "Don'ts" (and "Do's")*. By C. Hamilton Whiteford, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. London: Harrison and Sons, Ltd. 1923. (Cr. 8vo, pp. 46, 3s. net.)

<sup>14</sup> *Alcohol in Commerce and Industry*. By C. Simmonds, O.B.E., B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S. Pitman's Common Commodities and Industries. London: Sir I. Pitman and Sons, Ltd. 1922. (Cr. 8vo, pp. x + 119; 9 illustrations, 3s. net.)

In her book entitled *How We Resist Diseases*<sup>16</sup> Dr. JEAN BROADHURST of Columbia University aims at providing nurses and general students with some sound knowledge of the subject. Furthermore, she has endeavoured to deal with it in as simple language as possible, and anyone who has ever essayed a similar task must know how exceedingly difficult an undertaking it is. On the whole, she may be deemed to have succeeded, despite the profundity and wide field covered by doctrines concerning immunity and the preventive and curative practices founded thereon. The circumstance that the latter are of much practical interest to nurses and that they are described in considerable detail will probably commend the work to those for whom it is intended.

Dr. LUCIEN CHEINISSE's yearbook of treatment for 1922,<sup>16</sup> like its two predecessors, is divided into two parts, the first containing an account of new drugs and other methods of treatment arranged according to diseases and symptoms, and the second being a review of certain therapeutic methods. To facilitate reference the subjects are arranged in both parts in alphabetical order and by the provision of a full index. Dr. Cheinisse has not only a remarkably extensive knowledge of medical literature—in addition to French he quotes English, American, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, and Russian authorities—but he also possesses a fine critical faculty, to which, in deference to our review of the previous volume (*JOURNAL*, May 6th, 1922, p. 723), he has given much freer play than before. The little volume, therefore, is very readable, and is indispensable to those who wish to keep in touch with advance in therapeutics.

Students entering on the study of organic chemistry can choose among a considerable number of textbooks, which, however, seldom achieve the same contact with the subject that is attained in books on inorganic chemistry. The conditions that determine the progress of reactions receive too little attention; from some books the student may even receive the impression that a knowledge of structural formulae is all that is essential. In CHAMBERLAIN'S *Organic Chemistry*<sup>17</sup> there is displayed a more perfect intimacy with the real chemistry, the knowledge of which alone will enable the worker to achieve syntheses of his own devising or understand the chemical transactions realized in the realm of biology. Obviously, much of this knowledge can only be gained through practical work, for which appropriate textbooks are required; but it is none the less important that theoretical explanations of the successes and failures of practical methods should be provided. In this direction much remains to be done by authors of elementary works, and Dr. Chamberlain's effort is a step towards that goal. The volume contains all the matter usually needed in the course for a university degree. The arrangement is satisfactory, the printing is good, and there is a serviceable index.

<sup>16</sup> *How We Resist Disease*. By Jean Broadhurst, Ph.D. Lippincott's Nursing Manuals. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1923. (Demy 8vo, pp. 248; 38 figures, 4 coloured plates. 10s. 6d. net.)

<sup>16</sup> *L'Année Thérapeutique*. Troisième Année, 1922. By L. Cheinisse. Paris: Masson et Cie. 1923. (Imp. 16mo, pp. 208. Fr. 7.)

<sup>17</sup> *A Textbook of Organic Chemistry*. By J. S. Chamberlain, Ph.D. London: G. Routledge and Sons, Ltd. 1922. (Imp. 16mo, pp. xliii + 959. 16s. net.)

## PREPARATIONS AND APPLIANCES.

### *An Infants' Food.*

STUDY of the diet of infants continues to stimulate commercial production. Maltose has been represented to be of exceptional value as an additional carbohydrate in the composition of artificial food. Our attention has been directed to a product from starch consisting of maltose and dextrin prepared by Messrs. Mead Johnson and Co., of Evansville, Indiana; it is sold under the name of Dextri-Maltose and is obtainable in this country from the American Drug Supply Co., Ltd. It is put up in three forms, one being the simple product of manufacture containing about 50 per cent. of maltose, the remainder being dextrans and moisture; another consists of the same with the addition of 2 per cent. of sodium chloride; and the third contains 3 per cent. of potassium bicarbonate. Analyses made at our direction have shown that these articles agree with the composition stated on the labels and that the purity of the manufactured product is satisfactory. The proprietors inform us that they supply to medical practitioners and child-welfare institutions a number of booklets and pamphlets. These are practical and useful; they include a chart for the infant's weight, a set of cards giving directions as to dietary for infants of different ages, and a booklet called *The Bottle-fed Baby*, which is a carefully considered instruction to mothers written in easy language. This bears no advertisement and no directions for feeding are supplied with the food packages. Directions are supplied to medical attendants, who alone, we are informed, are advertised of the firm's products.

### *A Dried Milk.*

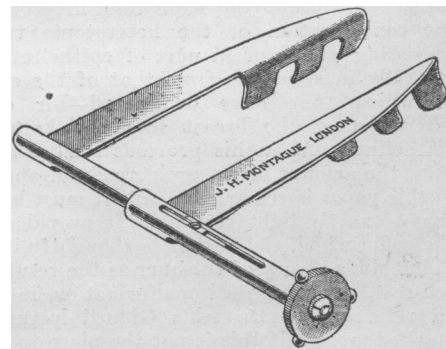
Milkal is the trade name of a dried milk prepared for infants by the Dried Milk Dairy Products Ltd. We understand that Messrs. J. Lyons and Co., Ltd., who are the distributors, are willing to supply sample tins on request for inspection. Milkal is stated to be produced by the spray process. A sample received by us has been examined analytically at our direction and the report returned is satisfactory. It is found that the composition agrees with that stated on the label, which represents a full-cream milk. The emulsion formed with water is devoid of aggregated particles and the fat globules are hardly less fine than those of natural milk; this is evidence that destructive heating has been avoided. A bacteriological examination has also been made which showed the sample to be clean. It was not found to contain any chemical preservative.

### *Standard Lactose.*

Erratic results in the culture reactions of bacteria and the study of their fermentative powers are not infrequently a source of perplexity and trouble to bacteriologists. They are usually to be traced to irregularity in the quality of the materials composing the culture medium. It is a necessity of prime importance in such work to use materials of infallible purity. In attention to this need the British Drug Houses (Graham Street, City Road, N.1) are engaging in the manufacture of a highly purified lactose. A specimen has been submitted to analytical examination at our direction and has been proved to possess the high degree of purity comprehended in the term "fine chemical." We do not doubt that the utilization of this article, which is sold under the denomination of Standard Lactose B.D.H., will prove to be of material advantage in bacteriological work.

### *A Laminectomy Retractor.*

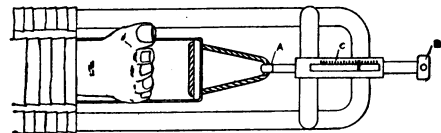
Mr. C. P. G. WAKELEY, F.R.C.S.Eng. (London, W.), writes: One of the difficulties in performing laminectomy is to obtain adequate retraction of the erector spinae muscles on each side. If the muscles are peeled away on either side and a self-retaining retractor inserted, an excellent view of the laminae is obtained and troublesome haemorrhage is avoided. It was with this object in view that Messrs. J. H. Montague, of 69, New Bond Street, have made to my design the laminectomy retractor here described. It consists of two stout steel blades with wide base and tapering towards the top. The inner edges of the blades have three curved hooks which are inserted



under the erector spinae muscles when the retractor is closed. The extension of the retractor blades is manipulated by a quick travelling screw revolving in a telescopic steel tube. On rotating a wheel at the opposite end of the tube the blades will open to five inches. I have found the retractor a very useful instrument; the adjustment is good. The whole of it is heavily nickel-plated.

### *A Simplified Extension Appliance.*

Mr. WM. RUFUS HARRIS (Assistant Surgeon, Gloucester Royal Infirmary) writes: The following appliance is intended for use with a Thomas's knee or arm splint or any modification of it. It obviates the use of any weights, pulleys, or uprights, and does not pin down the patient when



extension is applied to a limb. Adhesive strapping is first applied to the limb in the ordinary way, the wooden stirrup having two holes instead of one. Through these holes a loop of strong blind cord is threaded. This loop is slipped on to the end of the extension rod A. The thumb-screw B is then turned until the required amount of extension is applied as shown by the indicator C, which is graduated into pounds. The appliance can be used in most conditions requiring extension, and is particularly useful in conjunction with Thomas's knee-splint for the transportation of cases of fractured femur. The appliance is made by the Leeds Surgical Supply Company, Ltd., Park Lane, Leeds.

