

IN THIS ISSUE

THE article entitled "A Survey of Nutritional Status among School Children and Their Response to Nutrient Therapy" by Drs. John H. Browe and Harold B. Pierce, first presented at the Round Table on Nutrition in Relation to Health and Disease last November, now appears in this issue. It sets forth the results of a study with school children of Burlington, Vermont, showing signs of deficiency states in their conjunctivae, gums, or tongues, who were divided accordingly into three groups and given specific nutrient therapy for three years: vitamin A to the first group; ascorbic acid to the second; and niacin to the third. The changes occurring in these groups under specific therapy were contrasted with those of matched controls receiving placebos. It was found that the responses of the former to the appropriate type of therapy were statistically significant.

The rate of recession under therapy corresponded to the form of the pathology in the tissue; the subacute responded much more rapidly than did the chronic. Only after approximately two years did the recession of the chronic process become readily observable.

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In a paper on "Changes in Blood Values During Pregnancy and the Relation of Protein Levels to Toxemia Symptoms" by Dorothy G. Wiehl, an analysis is made of the variations in hematological values, in total serum protein, and in albumin and globulin throughout the prenatal period for a large group of women. When the effect of the increase in plasma volume during pregnancy found by several investigators is taken into account, the observed data on hematological values, on total

protein, and on albumin indicate an accelerated production of these blood constituents, although the actual concentration decreases. The concentration of serum globulin actually increases. Symptoms of toxemia of pregnancy occurred most frequently among women whose albumin values were below the average for all women early in pregnancy or declined in the latter half of pregnancy to less than average levels. This report is one of a series given at the Round Table on Nutrition in Health and Disease, which was a part of the Annual Conference of the Milbank Memorial Fund, November 16-17, 1949.



The two previous issues of the *Quarterly* have carried seven of the ten papers given at the Round Table on Modernization Programs in Relation to Human Resources and Population Problems, held in connection with the 1949 Annual Conference of the Milbank Memorial Fund. Two additional papers from this series are presented in this issue. All will be available soon in the form of a volume constituting part of the proceedings of the Conference.

In the paper "The United States Point Four Program," Mr. Samuel P. Hayes, Jr., of the Department of State, discusses Point Four from the standpoint of general objectives and major provisions, relation to the United Nations program of technical assistance, implication for our national foreign policy, and "general principles" that the author thinks should govern the operation of the program on the basis of past experience in rendering technical assistance to underdeveloped areas. The timeliness of this paper has been enhanced by the recent passage of legislation affecting the Point Four Program.

Past experience indicates that modernization brings reductions in death rates before it brings reductions in birth rates and hence tends to be followed by a period of rapid population growth. One of the problems engendered is that of providing employment for the expanding labor force of an increasing population. A description of how this problem was met in Japan, the most industrialized country of the Orient, is given in the paper "Population Increase and Manpower Utilization

in Imperial Japan," by Dr. Irene B. Taeuber of the Office of Population Research, Princeton University.



The tenth of a series of articles being published in the *Quarterly* under the general title "Social and Psychological Factors Affecting Fertility" appears in this issue under the sub-title "Fertility Planning and Fertility Rates by Religious Interest and Denomination" and under the authorship of Dr. Ronald Freedman of the University of Michigan and Professor P. K. Whelpton of the Scripps Foundation for Research in Population Problems. The paper presents an analysis of "Indianapolis Study" materials collected for the purpose of testing an hypothesis regarding the interrelation of interest in religion, fertility-planning, and size of planned family.