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1789; since then numerous reports have been published in Mexico. The clinical picture is that of a progressive and symmetrical polyneuropathy, starting in the lower limbs and ending with respiratory and bulbar paralysis. If the patient survives, there is a slow and progressive improvement to almost complete functional recovery. In the present case a five-year-old girl who ingested the fruit of Karwinski Humboltiana developed a progressive and symmetrical polyneuropathy. Sural-nerve biopsy revealed segmental demyelination that may have resulted from disruption of the metabolic activity of the Schwann cell by a poisonous element of the endocarp of this fruit. There are 6 references.

752 Magnetic Fields Around the Torso: Production by Electrical Activity of the Human Heart. D. Cohen. Science 156, 652-654 (May 5, 1967).

Fluctuating magnetic fields produced by the heart were explored outside the torso. Measurem were made inside a highly shielded enclosure. The amplitudes of the heart magnetic fluctuatio were usually in the range of 10^{-8} to 10^{-7} gauss, and thus previous reports were verified. The magnetic signal output was produced synchronously with the electrocardiogram (ECG). A magnetocardiograph (MCG) chest map, plotting magnetic field against time at various spatial positions, showed QRS complex and the T-wave. -- J. Am. Med. Assn. References & Reviews

753 Experimental Use of Laser in Otosclerotic Stapes. J. Sataloff. Arch Otolaryngol. 85, 614-616 (June, 1967).

The area and depth of damage in the stapes footplates produced with a laser can be controlled accurately. Considerably more work is essential before determining that this method has application in clinical otosclerosis. However, laser irradiation makes it possible to produce very discrete lesions in the stapes footplate provided a satisfactory dye is first applied to the surface. -- J. Am. Med. Assn. References & Reviews

754 Bacteria in Chilled Delicatessen Foods. C.A. Rasmussen and D.H. Strong. Public Health Repts. 82, 353-358 (April, 1967).

The numbers of selected organisms in 85 samples of chilled delicatessen foods purchased in th Madison, Wis., area were determined. Protein-rich salads were found to contain relatively high numbers of total viable bacteria, enterococci, pseudomonads, and staphylococci. More th one fourth of the staphylococci colonies tested were coagulase positive. The vegetable salads containe considerable numbers of pseudomonads, enterococci, and total bacteria. The staphylococci count in the vegetable salads was low; only 1.7% of the colonies tested were coagulase positive. The gelatin salads and gelatin desserts had low counts for all groups of organisms studied except enterococci. Samples from large chain stores showed a lower average number of cells for all organisms. S. faecalis was identified in 27% to 55% of the significant dilutions of tubes used to determine the enterococci most probable number value. The study results suggest the need for bacterial standards for chilled, commercially prepared foods. -- J. Am. Med. Assn. References & Reviews

755 The Microflora of Hand Washed Milk Bottles. S.B. Thomas, Kay P. King, and Angela Davies. J. Appl. Bacteriol. 29, 423-429 (Aug. 1966).

The examination of a series of 713 milk bottles cleansed by hand washing at producer-retailer farm dairies showed that although nearly 60% attained satisfactory bacteriological standards, about 30% gave high colony counts (greater than 600 per bottle). Ten references are given. -- Summary cond., Public Health Eng. Abstr.

756 Staphylococcus aureus on the Hair. W.C. Noble. J. Clin. Pathol. 19, 570-572 (Nov. 1966).

Staphylococcus aureus was present on the hair of about 10% of people having no hospital contact and on about 50% of patients with skin diseases. The "resident" carrier rate was higher in patients with eczema and psoriasis than in others and appeared to be related to carriage of the organisms on the skin. Two references are given. -- Abst. cond., Public Health Eng. Abstr.

757 Hard Water Syndrome. R.M. Freeman, R.L. Lawton, and M.A. Chamberlain. New Engl. J. Med. 276, 1113-1117 (May 18, 1967).

During a one-week period of observation vomiting of variable severity occurred during 17 of 23 dialyses (74%) performed on 12 patients; the incidence of vomiting during the previous week in the same patients was three of 23 (13%). The onset of vomiting occurred from 2 to 12 hours

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