

a group of Negro infants and three carefully controlled groups of white infants in New Haven, using the methods developed by Dr. Arnold Gesell at the Yale Clinic of Child Development.

The Negro infants were found to be fully equal to the white infants in all respects, including intelligence. These findings were confirmed by later re-examination.

Significantly, their weight and length at birth and their growth were also precisely similar to white standards. This, Dr. Pasamanik thinks, means that the diet of the Negro mothers before the babies were born may have played a very important role in the development of their babies.

The children in this study were conceived and born during the war years when, probably for the first time, due to improved economic conditions and rationing, Negroes had a diet about equal to that of whites.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1949

Science Service Radio

► LISTEN in to a discussion on "Useful Woods of the Tropics" on "Adventures in Science" over the Columbia Broadcasting System at 3:15 p. m. EDST, Saturday, June 18. Dean George A. Garratt, of Yale University School of Forestry, and Prof. Frederick F. Wangaard, associate professor of Forest Products at Yale, will be the guests of Watson Davis, director of Science Service. They will tell of the extensive experimentation and testing of woods from jungles and highlands of equatorial regions which have been undertaken by the Yale school of forestry in cooperation with the Office of Naval Research.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1949

Question Box

ANTHROPOLOGY-ARCHAEOLOGY

Who may be the world's first murderers? p. 373.

MEDICINE

Can rheumatics predict weather? p. 376.
What drug shows promise in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis? p. 375.
What is the new method which suggests aid for ulcer patients? p. 371.

PSYCHIATRY-CHEMISTRY

What is helping to rejuvenate aging brains? p. 371.

Photographs: Cover, Dr. R. Bowling Barnes, Dr. Charles J. Burton; p. 371, Glenn L. Martin Co.; p. 373, General Electric Co.; p. 375, C. A. Schroeder; p. 378, U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey; p. 379, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Words in Science— RH

► A BLOOD factor, important because it may cause the illness or death of a baby through incompatibility of the baby's blood with that of its own mother, is called Rh because it was first found in the blood of a Rhesus monkey. You pronounce the letters separately—R-h.

When a person lacks the Rh factor, any mingling of his blood with Rh positive blood sets up a process like immunization against disease. This reaction serves to destroy the Rh positive blood just as the blood of an immunized person checks the invading germs of a disease.

If a woman having Rh negative blood should receive a transfusion of Rh positive blood, it would set up this immunization. Then, if, after that, she should have a baby with Rh positive blood, the baby would be killed or made very ill by its own mother's blood.

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GENETICS

Extra Chromosomes in Mouse Ova Developed

► EARLY-STAGE embryos of mice, with cells containing three times the basic number of chromosomes, have been obtained in experiments conducted by Drs. R. A. Beatty and M. Fischberg in the laboratories of the Animal Breeding and Genetics Research Organization in Edinburgh. Results are announced in the British science journal, NATURE (May 21).

Plants and lower animals with doubled-up chromosome counts are fairly common in nature, and can also be produced arti-

ficially by treatment with chemicals, X-rays, temperature shock, etc. Mammals exhibiting this phenomenon, however, have never been reported.

Some time ago the American zoologist, Dr. Gregory Pincus, was able to get extra-chromosome eggs from rabbits to divide twice. Drs. Beatty and Fischberg, however, succeeded in getting their mouse eggs to continue dividing as far as the stage called the blastula, which consists of several hundred cells.

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