

During the process of nourishing themselves, micro-organisms injure man. The manner in which this is brought about is:

- (a) By production of soluble toxins or poisons (diphtheria).
- (b) By production of insoluble toxins due to splitting up of proteins of body.
- (c) By mechanical action.

Infections may be: (a) Local--boils; (b) General--typhoid fever,

Infections may spread by (a) continuity, (b) blood stream, (c) lymph stream.

References: Storey--Defensive Hygiene, Book II, Chapters 17 and 22.
Rice, T. B.--Conquest of Disease, Chapter 2.
Bossard--Problems of Social Well-Being, Chapters 8, 9, 13.
Chapin, C. V.--Sources and Modes of Infection, Chapters 4-8.
DeKruif--Microbe Hunters.
Radot--Life of Pasteur.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Which one of the groups of exciting causes of ill health do you consider most important today?
2. Is there any change going on at the present time in the relative importance of these groups? What? Why?
3. What would happen if we destroyed all of the bacteria?
4. How do bacteriologists proceed when they wish to decide whether a disease is communicable or not?
5. In what way are disease producing bacteria most frequently spread from one person to another?
6. What information is it necessary to have about a given bacteria in order to provide defensive measures against it?
7. What conditions determine whether an individual who takes pathogenic organisms into his body will become ill?
8. Compare the process of fermentation with microbic disease?
9. How do bacteria harm the human body?

VI. RESISTANCE AND IMMUNITY

Certain persons who are exposed to communicable diseases do not come down with them; other persons recover from them. This raises two questions which are of great practical importance to every individual--resistance and immunity.