best and most recent information on four essential aspects of the problem of fetal and neonatal mortality, namely, stillbirths and deaths in the newborn as seen by the medical examiner, feeding the prematurely born infant, how the altered physiology of the newborn contributes to the neonatal death rate, and the importance of blood studies in reducing infant mortality. These four articles, prepared by such outstanding physicians as Drs. Jacob Werne, Samuel Z. Levine, Margaret Dann, Clement Smith, Philip Levine, and Peter Vogel, discuss each question broadly, present the facts informally and realistically, and suggest concrete and practical conclusions.

This brochure is the first of what is hoped will be an annual publication of the proceedings of the Special Committee on Infant Mortality of the Medical Society of the County of New York. It has been co-operatively sponsored and distributed by this Society, the New York State Department of Health, the New York City Department of Health, and the Medical Society of the State of New York for the expressed purpose of making this excellent material available to the largest possible number of physicians whose practices embrace obstetrics and pediatrics.

ELINOR F. DOWNS


This is the report of a study which indicates the psychological and sociocultural factors affecting food habits. The authors, who are sociologists, studied three types of rural southern communities: (1) a one-crop economy in a tobacco growing area in North Carolina; (2) a live-at-home economy with diversified farming in South Carolina; and (3) a prospering cotton economy, with long-term tenants in Georgia. Chapter headings include: Theories of Food Ideas and Attitudes, The Transmission of Foodways, Foods Which Seem Emotion Centered, and Implications for Food Policy.

The appendix includes the outline used by the authors in their intensive interviewing with an example of material secured by such an interview.

The material, while helpful to all persons concerned with health education, will be especially valuable to workers in the field of health education and public health nutrition in the southern states.

ALICE H. SMITH


The title of this book, parts of which were previously published as Microbiology of Water and Sewage for Engineering Students, does not indicate the wide field covered by the text. Beginning with an adequate section of 80 pages devoted to elementary general microbiology, its next 200 pages are concerned principally with plankton and control of plankton problems (4 chapters), water bacteriology, including chapters on Chemical Tests for Pollution, Locating the Source of Pollution and Self Purification of Waters (7 chapters), filtration and chlorination of water and their effect on the incidence of infectious disease, and a brief discussion of rural and miscellaneous waters (4 chapters). Then follows a chapter on water softening. The subject of sewage disposal is covered in some 90 pages (8 chapters), including a final chapter on industrial wastes.

The treatment of these various topics is generally excellent. The fundamental principles of the methods of examination and of water and sewage purification are always emphasized; and the examples of accomplishment in practice, although not very numerous, are suf-
cient for an introductory study of the subject.

The broad field covered by this book, including frequent digressions into the chemistry, epidemiology, and engineering of water supply and sewage disposal, the orderly treatment of each chapter which greatly facilitates the presentation of the subject matter, and the readable style of the authors should make this volume a popular introduction to the study of microbiology of water and sewage, and of treatment of water and sewage. M. H. McCrady


Forty-two years have now elapsed since the first edition of this excellent text, the last revised four years ago by the present authors. Throughout the series there has been emphasized "the importance of a basic approach which would include not only the biologic characteristics of the organisms but the reactions of the living tissues to the bacteria and their products." As the authors point out, this approach has made the volume of equal value to the bacteriologist and to the student of public health and clinical medicine. Again the authors desire "to keep inviolate the basic biologic approach to bacteriology and, at the same time, to emphasize the public health significance and the practical clinical importance of certain of the biologic characteristics of the organisms."

This 10th edition represents an extensive revision throughout. The increasing importance of the viruses is reflected in higher proportional emphasis. Included are the reactions of each organism to the new antibiotics and frequently to the administration of ACTH and cortisone. The public health aspects of each disease are systematically emphasized. The volume is well illustrated, 132 new cuts being used in this edition. The references are commendably up to date.

Again it can be said, as Dr. Pearl Kendrick said about the 9th edition, that teachers, students, and workers who have awaited this revision will not be disappointed. Reginald M. Atwater


This book is an excellent summary of the various aspects of laboratory design written from the standpoint of architects and engineers. The terminology is simple and well presented and the various articles are well illustrated.


This book should prove useful to public health engineers and administrators faced with the construction or the control of operation of laboratories handling radioactive materials. Rolf Eliassen


This volume brings up to date and deepens the content of the first edition. Designed primarily for nursing students and their counselors, the author presents