Announcing

A Completely New (7th) Edition of Williams' Personal Hygiene Applied

The New (7th) Edition of Dr. Jesse Feiring Williams' widely successful text "Personal Hygiene Applied" will be ready in June. Without any question this New (7th) Edition is the result of the most complete and important revision ever given the text. Dr. Williams has done much more than just bring his text up-to-date. He has virtually rewritten it to give new simplicity, new ease of understanding, more orderly arrangement and to include the many modern concepts that have altered the method of teaching the subject.

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By Jesse Feiring Williams, M.D., ScD., Teachers College, Columbia University. About 627 pages, illustrated. Ready in June!

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CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE CHEMISTRY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

By Dr. M. L. CROSSLEY
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, CALCO CHEMICAL DIVISION, AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY

The discovery of microorganisms as the causative agents in infectious diseases introduced a new problem of relating the specific characteristics of a disease to the nature and behavior of the particular type of organism responsible for the pathological condition. It seemed reasonable to expect that the infecting agent would change the normal course of certain physical and chemical processes essential to the regular functions of the healthy state of the animal. A knowledge of the mechanism of the cycle of events involved would lead to a rational basis of treating the disease to eliminate the difficulties and reestablish normal conditions. Obviously, it was of prime importance to learn as much as possible about microorganisms and their pathogenicity before a comprehensive study of their role in disease would be instructive and profitable. Just how the infecting agent causes a specific disease, what changes occur, where these changes are initiated, the nature of the resulting products and their influence on the physical and chemical process underlying the normal cellular activity of the animal; are questions which must be answered before chemotherapy can be highly effective in relieving man of the many ills that now reduce his efficiency, limit his usefulness and endanger his life.

All these questions involve difficult problems. The infecting agents are themselves complex organisms, whose metabolic processes are poorly understood. The animal organism is much more complex and its

\[1\] Address delivered before the general meeting of the American Chemical Society at the Detroit meeting September 9, 1940.