

unge which has previously been sterilized and loaded with 5 c.c. of sterile 2 per cent. sodium citrate solution in normal saline. By inverting the syringe several times a thorough mixture is secured and clotting thereby prevented. The citrated blood is directly transferred to eight centrifuge tubes containing sterile distilled water. The result of this step is the laking of the corpuscles and liberation of the hemoglobin. These tubes are immediately centrifuged at high speed, and the supernatant fluid subsequently pipetted off with a sterile pipet attached to a water suction pump.

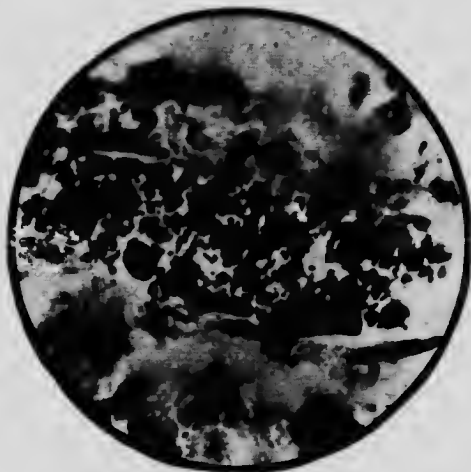


Fig. 1 (R. 517).—Bacteria growing in blood vessel of the myocardium

The sediment remaining in the bottom of the tubes is composed of the broken down hulls of the corpuscles together with any bacteria which may be present. This operation is performed inside a glass cabinet which contains a Bunsen burner, the tube to the suction pump and the tap from the broth reservoir. By merely adding bouillon to the sediment, each centrifuge tube is converted into a culture flask, and is now ready to be placed in the incubator. The sediment of two tubes is reserved to be mixed with ascitic agar for anaerobic conditions. This is obtained in a satisfactory manner by making this mixture after the agar has