

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CENTRAL AND PERIPHERAL LYMPHOID TISSUE: ONTOGENETIC AND PHYLOGENETIC CONSIDERATIONS

R. A. GOOD†, ANN E. GABRIELSEN,‡ R. D. A. PETERSON,§
JOANNE FINSTAD‡ and M. D. COOPER¶

*The Pediatric Research Laboratories of the Variety Club Heart
Hospital, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis*

In the past few years an extraordinary burst of research activity has been redefining the lymphoid system. At Minnesota, we observed the first patient with agammaglobulinaemia and thymoma and we did our first unsuccessful thymectomy experiments in rabbits between 1953 and 1955 (Good, 1954; Good and Varco, 1955; MacLean *et al.*, 1956). This was at about the time of Glick and his colleagues' first experiments on the immunological function of the bursa of Fabricius, a cloacal thymus-like mass of lymphoid tissue peculiar to birds (Glick, Chang and Jaap, 1956; Chang, Rheins and Winter, 1957; Glick, 1964). Stimulated by the extension of Glick's findings by Harold Wolfe and his students (Mueller, Wolfe and Meyer, 1960; Mueller *et al.*, 1962) we undertook neonatal thymectomy studies in our laboratories in Minnesota. We demonstrated a post-thymectomy depression of adaptive immunity first in rabbits (Archer and Pierce, 1961;

† American Legion Memorial Heart Research Professor of Pediatrics and Microbiology.

‡ Research Fellow, Department of Pediatrics, United States Public Health Service grant number 9T1-A1292.

§ Established Investigator, American Heart Association.

¶ Postdoctoral Fellow, United States Public Health Service.