

change, perhaps in the permeability of the muscle, or in the blood supply, permits the rapid drainage of products of hydrolysis to take place, thus gradually reducing the tissues in amount. In some cases, phagocytosis, stimulated by a precedent lesion, assists in the process of transfer of materials. In involution of the mammalian uterus, there may be a different factor at work, for it has been shown by Slemons¹ that a rise of total nitrogen in the maternal urine occurs after birth and that this is likewise true if the fetus is removed by Cæsarian section, pointing to a relation to the involution of the uterus and likewise to acceleration of proteoclastic enzymes, for uteri are notoriously slow in autolyzing. Langstem and Neubauer and Ferroni obtained acceleration in uterine involution. The point is at present being studied in this laboratory.

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Note on action of corpus luteum upon the mammary glands.

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Our experiments were made upon virgin rabbits. The corpora lutea of the cow were rubbed up with sterilized water and injected hypodermically every three days for a month. The rabbits were of the same size. Care was taken that no sepsis ensued by the injection. It was found that the mammary glands enlarged to a considerable extent, more than twice the original size. They also contained milk. Upon their removal after death and hardened, sections were made and stained. Under the microscope there was about a ten-fold increase in the number of glands compared with the occasional ones in the virgin rabbit.

¹ *Bull. Johns Hopkins Hosp.*, 25, p. 195, 1914.