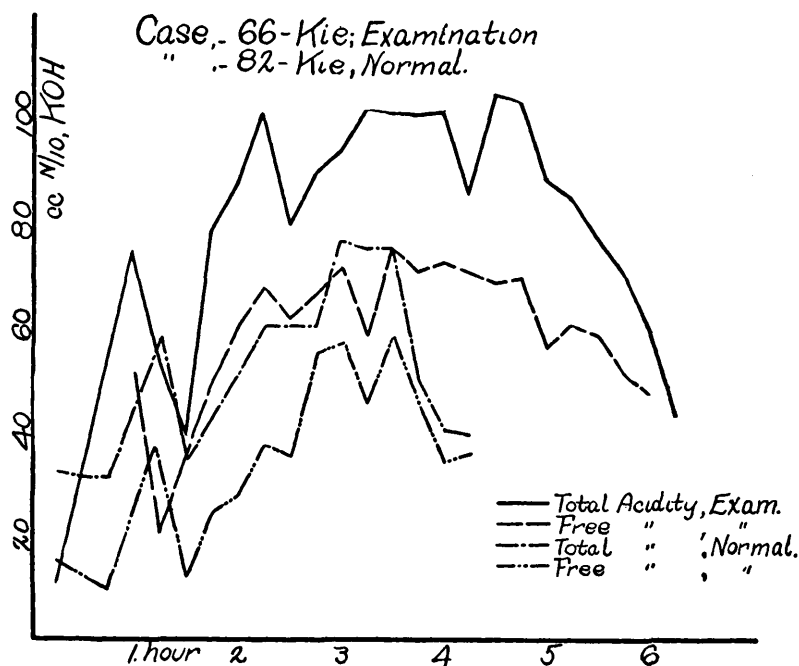


Cycle.	Theoretical Systole.	Actual Systole Determined.	
.54.....	.22	.23 -.24	Normal controls.
.67.....	.23	.23 -.24	
.34.....	.19	.135-.14	Accelerators stimulated. Vagus intact.
.50.....	.215	.155-.16	
.56.....	.22	.215-.22	Vagi cut.
.59.....	.225	.22	
.90.....	.235	.28	Vagus stimulation.
.98.....	.238	.275	
1.50.....	.25	.25	
.28.....	.175	.125-.135	Accelerator stimulation, vagi cut.
.33.....	.19	.14	
.63.....	.228	.20	Combined vagus and accelerator stimulation.
.80.....	.235	.20	
.83.....	.235	.205	
.96.....	.238	.20	
1.08.....	.24	.20	

## 57 (1517)

**The influence of anxiety on gastric digestion.**By **RAYMOND J. MILLER**, **OLAF BERGEIM**, and **PHILIP B. HAWK**.*[From the Laboratory of Physiological Chemistry, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Penna.]*

The study of the influence of emotional strain on digestion in man offers some difficulties due to the fact that the emotions cannot be readily controlled, nor are the subjects of extreme emotion readily amenable to experimentation. We were, however, able to obtain an interesting illustration of the profound effect of mental anxiety on gastric digestion in the case of one of our subjects. The man was a first-year medical student who had previously served as a subject of gastric tests. He was given one hundred grams of fried chicken on the morning of an important examination in chemistry, and was asked to write out his answers during the course of the test. He was plainly worried over the outcome of the examination and of his year's work. The resultant effect upon gastric digestion in prolonging evacuation for over two hours with high intra-gastric acidity is charted in the figure. The



same chart gives the normal digestion curve for fried chicken on this subject as obtained a week later under the best mental conditions.

58 (1518)

### Is unpalatable food properly digested?

By CLARENCE A. SMITH, RALPH C. HOLDER, and PHILIP B. HAWK.

[From the Laboratory of Physiological Chemistry, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Penna.]

It is well known that different psychic stimuli promote or retard the secretion of digestive juices. The following experiment was conducted to determine whether the ultimate return to the body from unpalatable food was different from the return from the same food palatably served.

The experimental procedure was simple. A 7-day period during which the subjects were on a uniform diet, served palatably and amid pleasant surroundings, was followed by a 2-day period