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**L. Acidophilus versus L. Bulgaricus milk feeding.**

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Experiments of this kind have been carried out on groups of four human subjects by Rahe,<sup>1</sup> and by Rettger and Cheplin.<sup>2</sup> Because of its importance, 12 psychotic subjects showing on repeated fecal examination no *acidophilus-bulgaricus* type of colony were fed 3 strains of *L. bulgaricus* milk for 14 days, after a preliminary observation period of 14 days. *L. bulgaricus* was not recovered from the feces, except in one instance.

After an interval of 14 days, *L. acidophilus* milk was fed for 14 days. The constipated cases were greatly benefited, and the non-constipated cases also had a greater number of normal defecations. *L. acidophilus* was recovered from the feces of all subjects. In three cases the per cent was 99-100, and in all cases but one, it was over 67.

Subsequently, some cases continued to show marked improvement over their original condition, while others showed a tendency to revert to it. Seven days after discontinuing treatment, there were no *L. acidophilus* present in the feces.

It is thus clearly established that *L. acidophilus* differs from *L. bulgaricus* in its ability to live in the gastro-intestinal tract. In a further inquiry into the nature of the activity of *L. acidophilus*,<sup>3</sup> we are studying the enzymes of this organism, and have good reason to believe that they differ from those of *L. bulgaricus*. Another interesting chemical problem being considered is the stereoisomerism of the lactic acid produced by these Lactobacilli.

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<sup>1</sup> Rahe, A. H., *J. Infect. Dis.*, 1915, xvi, 210-220.

<sup>2</sup> Rettger, L. F., and Cheplin, H. A., *The Intestinal Flora*, Yale University Press, 1921.

<sup>3</sup> Kopeloff, N., and Beerman, P., *Arch. Int. Med.*, 1924, xxxiii, 55-57.