

## 5329

**Destruction of Yeast in the Normal Human Stomach.**

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Twelve gm. portions of bakers' yeast were fed to normal men with water or with various test meals. The stomachs were emptied after varying periods of time and counts of live yeast cells made by plating on malt agar. Microscopic counts of cells in gastric contents were also made. As no yeast cells are disintegrated in the period of normal gastric digestion, the percentage of yeast cells killed could be calculated from the 2 counts and the approximate proportion of yeast cells passing through the stomach alive under different conditions estimated.

When yeast was administered with each of the following the percentage of live cells getting through the stomach was approximately as follows: Water 60 cc., 95%. Water 250 cc., 90%. Orange juice 100 cc., 75%. Orange juice 250 cc., 55%. Yeast alone, 75%. Oatmeal gruel 500 cc., 95%. Milk 100 cc., 80%. Meat 100 gm., 50%.

Yeast went through the stomach most rapidly when taken with about 60 cc. of water (85% in 15 minutes), and most slowly when taken with meat (80% in 1½ hours).

*In vitro* experiments on human gastric juice indicated that the hydrochloric acid of the gastric juice was chiefly responsible for the destruction observed.

## 5330

**Ventriculin in the Treatment of Pernicious Anemia Patients on Meat Free Diet.**

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After the demonstration by Castle<sup>1</sup> that the stomach of normal persons secretes a substance which can develop a blood maturing principle from meat, and the subsequent demonstration of ventricu-

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<sup>1</sup> Castle, W. B., *Brit. Med. J.*, 1929, **1**, 1120.