

### Method Makes Processed Foods Taste Fresh

Washington—(Science Service)—Canned, frozen and dehydrated foods may be made to taste like fresh foods by a new flavor-enhancing method that uses flavor enzymes obtained from bruised fruit and other food wastes.

The radical method is expected by its developer, the Evans Research and Development Corporation, New York, to have far-reaching effects on the nation's \$55 billion food processing industry.

Commercial applications of the new process, it says, might be in the actual processing or packaging of the food, or as a shaker-type powder that could be merchandised at the retail level.

The process, granted patent No. 2,824,521 by the U.S. Patent Office here this week, is based on research into the chemical nature of flavor. Fresh flavor is produced by the catalytic action of specific enzymes on chemical compounds in natural foods called "flavor precursors."

Usual methods of processing inactivate substantially all the enzymes, including those responsible for flavor. The flavor precursors are more stable, however, and ordinarily survive this operation. They regenerate fresh flavor when the specific enzymes are restored.

**Source, Not Waste**

These flavor enzymes are obtained from the fresh food or biologically related materials. The source may even be waste products such as bruised or overripe fruit, or inedible parts such as peels, leaves or skin.

Invented by Drs. Eric J. Hewitt, Donald A. M. Mackay and Kurt S. Konigsbacher of Evans Research and Dr. Torsten Hasselstrom of the Army Quartermaster Research and Engineering Command, the process applies to a wide variety of canned, frozen, dehydrated or irradiated foods. These include string beans, cabbage, horseradish, bananas, blueberries, milk, meat and fish.

Dr. Murray Berdick, coordinator of research at Evans, speculates that flavor-improved dehydrated foods may well revolutionize food merchandising. Eventually, he says, all kinds of dehydrated foods may be purchased out of the pages of mail order catalogues.



**SERIOUS CONVERSATION** — President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Christian Herter appear in serious conversation after posing with Latin American diplomats who were luncheon guests at the White House Wednesday. (UPI Telephoto)

### Records of Doctors Are Inadequate, Lawyer Declares

Kansas City, Mo. — (Science Service) — Doctors have been charged with filing slipshod and incomplete medical records by a lawyer here.

Hitting the general practitioner through a medium read by doctors themselves, Stanley D. Rose cited examples of inadequate medical reports submitted as evidence in a publication.

It is very common to receive medical reports with no indication of the age of the patient being examined, he stressed.

### Undulant Fever May Be Involved In Heart Disease

Los Angeles—(Science Service)—Brucellosis, or undulant fever, may be involved in some cases of heart disease attributed to rheumatic fever.

Additional evidence to support this theory has been reported by investigators from the University of California Medical School, Los Angeles, and the Long Beach Veterans Administration Hospital.

Dr. Benjamin E. Konwaler, Dr. Charles M. Carpenter and Susumu Ohno reported experiments in which brucellosis caused heart damage to guinea pigs.

**Damage Found**

Experimental brucellosis was induced in 37 guinea pigs, which were autopsied 39 to 383 days after onset of the infection. Although no gross heart damage was observed, microscopic evidence of damage to heart tissue was found in 15 of the guinea pigs. The damage was similar to that observed in rheumatic fever.

In previous studies, 206 patients with heart disease were given a skin test with brucellosis organisms. Of this group 117 gave a positive test, indicating they had previously been infected with the Brucella germ. Sixty of this group had been diagnosed as having had rheumatic fever.

All this evidence suggests that brucellosis may sometimes contribute to heart disease, the investigators said. Symptoms of chronic brucellosis are often similar to those of rheumatic fever, they said.

### Nickel Parking Meter on Way Out

Chicago—(UPI)—The 5 cent parking meter, like the 5 cent cigar, is becoming a thing of the past.

The American Municipal Association reported that of 48 large cities recently surveyed by the San Francisco Parking Authority, 38 charged 10 cents an hour, or more, in at least some areas.

Four charged 10 cents hourly for all meters. Five charged 20 cents an hour for some.

**JUNKING RATE**

Detroit—About 650,000 trucks and buses are junked each year, and three of four trucks sold are needed to replace the units that have been scrapped.

### Methodists Adopt Unusual Message

New York—(UPI)—The Methodist Board of Temperance has adopted an unusual method for a church group to get over the message of auto driving safety for teenagers.

It has put in distribution to high schools, colleges, clubs and churches an animated cartoon with an original jazz background score.

"Stop Driving Us Crazy" is the film's title. It tells the whimsical but deadly serious story of a lad from Mars who comes to Earth and is frightened by the driving habits of hot-rodgers.

The music was composed by Benny Golson of the Dizzy Gillespie band, and it is played by outstanding jazz instrumentalists. "Crazy Drivin' Blues" and "No Time for Speed" are two of the numbers available on records.

Detroit—The average age of trucks in the U.S. is 5.6 years, compared with 5.6 years in 1941. Some still in use have 20 or more years of service.

### Woman Said Best Guinea Pig for Pregnancy Test

Fort Wayne, Ind. (Science Service)—The woman herself is the best "guinea pig" to use to determine whether or not she is pregnant.

Female hormone tablets will produce more accurate results than the rabbit, frog or mother animal tests that have been used for the past 25 years, Dr. Harold A. Schwartz of Chattanooga, Tenn., told members of the Indiana Academy of General Practice here. Furthermore, the vice president of the Tennessee Obstetrical and Gynecological Society added, the hormone test eliminates the need for laboratory work.

**Natural Reaction**

The test is based on a natural hormone reaction of the human body. The basic element of the test is progesterone, the female hormone which has the function of preparing the lining of the womb to receive and nurture the fertilized ovum.

When a woman misses her period and has reason to believe she is pregnant, progesterone is given to her for three days, then withdrawn, Dr. Schwartz explained. If she is pregnant, the hormone will help implant the ovum properly, while the patient is completely unaware of any change.

On the other hand, if she is not pregnant, menstrual bleeding begins a few days after the last dose of hormone. In such cases the woman has been the victim of a foible called amenorrhea, or missed periods.

**Quicker Answer**

Experimentation with the various methods of administering progesterone, including by injection and tablet, plus in combination with other hormones, has led Dr. Schwartz to this conclusion: Tablets will answer the question of pregnancy quicker than other forms. The tablets he used on 220 patients were called ProDuosterone. He warned colleagues not to expect an accurate result in women who have had a history of irregular periods of three months duration or longer.

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### Long Hair Gives Way to Crew Cut

Buffalo, N.Y.—Dolores Palotte was very proud of her hair. When she removed her combs it would hang well below her waist.

She reached for a bottle of vinegar to rinse her locks after she finished giving herself a shampoo. By accident, she grasped a bottle of pine oil floor cleaner. Her hair was a sticky mess before she realized what had happened.

She consulted several beauty parlors but none of the preparations they recommended would remove the pine oil.

At last she gave up and submitted to the shears. She wound up with a 1½-inch crew cut.

### Couple Finds Situation Changed

Houston, Tex. — (UPI) — A three-story building at 1003 Congress ave. is one of Houston's oldest structures and at one time was a rather well-to-do hotel.

The second floor is now occupied by the Houston Costume Co., owned by Fred Morrow.

One afternoon Morrow heard some labored steps ascending the solid mahogany stairway. Finally, a little old lady and a little old gentleman, both puffing, came into view.

"We would like one of your best rooms for the night," the gentleman said.

"Why, this isn't a hotel," Morrow said, somewhat surprised.

"It isn't?" the man asked. Then, looking around for the first time, he added, "No, I don't believe it is."

"You know," he smiled apologetically, "the last time mother and I were in Houston, we spent the night here. Very comfortable, too."

"Just when was that," Morrow asked.

### Dog, Cat Enjoy Swimming Parties

Sarasota, Fla. — A cat that likes to swim and a skin-diving dog are pets of the Douglas Drickett family.

Drickett says Molly, his wife's cat, apparently doesn't like to miss the fun on swimming parties and "just takes off and 'dog paddles' out in the water."

He adds that his dog, an English setter, can dive about four feet deep, can swim at least 10 feet under water and stay submerged at least a minute.

### Cook Books Burn

Troy, Ala. — Mrs. Barbara Askley wasn't so upset when a fire in her electric range ruined the chicken dinner she was preparing.

"What hurt most," said Mrs. Askley, "was the fact that the fire also destroyed my three cook books."

The couple compared notes at some length and finally the man answered:

"It was just before the war — in 1916."

"I have had more than my share of reports on 'well-developed, well-nourished, obese, white females' with no indication as to whether they were 18 or 58 years old," he said.

**Medical Booboo**

Citing another example, lawyer Rose reported this medical booboo written by a doctor:

"I conclude that the patient has sustained a permanent disability of about 40 per cent." It may be questioned, the lawyer suggested, whether few, if any, doctors who write such a sentence have given any thought to the meaning of what they are writing.

Suppose a man loses his left arm two inches from the shoulder. It can safely be assumed that he has suffered a 100 per cent permanent impairment of his left arm. However, the permanent impairment of the whole man as a result of this injury, is questionable, he emphasized.

**Disability Changes**

This man, it is agreed, suffered 100 per cent impairment of the left arm. Assuming further that at the time of the accident, he was a \$4,500-per-year truck driver, he is 100 per cent disabled as a truck driver. But two years later, when the case is being settled in court, this man might be employed as a \$6,000 per year insurance salesman, with unlimited prospects. Obviously, there is no permanent disability at that point, lawyer Rose said.

An American Medical association committee concluded that there is no practical comprehensive system for evaluating permanent impairment by body systems or of the whole man. The committee stated that a patient is "permanently disabled" when his actual ability to engage in gainful activity is reduced or absent because of impairment and no fundamental or marked change in the future can be expected. This is not a medical condition.

**TINY ACORN GROWS**

Northampton, Mass. — (UPI) — Smith college's Neilson library began as a "reading room" in 1875 with one book — Webster's Dictionary. Today it has 430,000 volumes, making it the largest women's college library in the nation.

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