

If the feeding hours are very irregular, death frequently follows with rapid loss in body weight. There is found a greatly dilated stomach or, less often, a subacute gastro-enteritis. (5) Occasionally, when the animals are fed regularly at long intervals, they die with atony of the stomach and rapid emaciation. (6) These observations may, perhaps, be correlated with the fact observed in man that the human stomach is frequently upset when the meals are taken at very irregular intervals.

**The Diagnostic Value of Diastase in the Urine.**—E. MARINO (*Deut. Archiv f. klin. Med.*, 1911, ciii, 326) reports a quantitative study of urinary diastase in various diseases. He used the method of Wohlgemuth. The author finds (1) that the excretion of diastase in the urine is greatly lessened in nephritis and in diabetes mellitus. (2) In pancreatic disease the urinary diastase is increased in quantity. This, the author believes, is a very important sign of pancreatic disease. (3) As a functional test of the kidney, the quantitative estimation of diastase is valuable. (4) In pernicious anemia and in secondary anemia the diastase of the urine is markedly decreased. The diminution seems to be greater in pernicious than in secondary anemia, though the number of cases studied was too small to formulate a rule.

**The Rate of Regeneration of Blood Platelets.**—W. W. DUKE (*Jour. Exper. Med.*, 1911, xiv, 265) has been able to render the blood of dogs practically free of platelets by withdrawing 200 to 300 c.c. of blood from the carotid artery, defibrinating it completely, and then reinjecting it intravenously. A repetition of this procedure six to ten times reduces the number of platelets to a minimum. He finds that animals thus deprived of the greater part of their fibrinogen and platelets display a marked tendency to bleed. After the practical removal of platelets from the blood, their regeneration is very rapid, amounting to about one-fifth of the normal number daily. From observations on human beings, Duke believes that the life cycle of the platelets is a matter of only a few days.

**The Production, Life, and Death of Crescents in Malignant Tertian Malaria.**—D. THOMSON (*Annals Trop. Med. and Parasitol.*, 1911, v, 57) has studied the production, life, and death of crescents in treated and untreated cases of malignant tertian malaria by means of an enumerative method, the details of which are to be given in a forthcoming report. His results are summarized as follows: (1) Crescents are produced from the ordinary asexual spores of *P. falciparum*, due to a development of immunity toward the latter. (2) They develop somewhere in the internal organs and then appear suddenly in the peripheral blood. (3) The period required for their development is about ten days. (4) Crescents do not generally live more than a few days in the peripheral blood. (5) Crescents may be present in the peripheral blood during periods as long as eight weeks, not because the individual crescents survive for that time, but because their numbers are constantly replenished from surviving asexual forms. (6) Fresh broods of crescents come into the circulating blood daily, or every other day, or irregularly, according as the asexual sporulations occurring ten days before were quotidian, tertian, or irregular. (7) Quinine