POPULAR MECHANICS

Human and Plant Life Chemically Related

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Top, Throwing Stones into Mill to Grind Up Dried Leaves and Extract the Chlorophyll; Center, Some Pure Chlorophyll; Right, Drying the Green Leaves

From the laboratory of the organic chemist has come proof that plant life and human life are chemically related, if not one and the same basic thing. Chlorophyll is to the plant what the blood is to the animal-the giver of life-and it has been found that blood and the green of plants are so nearly alike that their chemical properties are shown in formulas which are almost identical. Chemists have extracted chlorophyll from plants in nearly pure form and have found that when this product is introduced into the digestive tract, the red blood cells immediately increase and their hemoglobin content rises, for hemin, the red pigment of the blood, and chlorophyll, the green pigment of plants, are virtually identical. The eating of green foods takes chlorophyll into the body's laboratory, and feeding it in concentrated form is merely a short cut in giving the body sunshine which the plant caught and benefited by. The chief chemical difference in the organic construction

of the green chlorophyll of plants and the red hemin in the blood is that the former contains magnesium while the latter contains iron. Dr. Frank M. Schertz, chemist of the department of agriculture, suggests chlorophyll may give a clue as to just what life is because it appears to be nature's laboratory converting energy into matter. The energy reaches the earth as sunshine which is transformed in the plant into matter. This chemist says there is evidence that chlorophyll is a highly concentrated form of energy coming directly from the rays of the sun and other planets. Thus the eating of green foods may give

far greater benefits than has been realized heretofore. In any event, man's closest approach to the chemical secrets of life now seems to be through the green leaves of plants. When the riddle of chlorophyll finally is solved, it



is possible that nature's story of life and how it is produced may be revealed.

THIS ARTICLE IS OF INTEREST IN RELATION TO SYNTONICS.

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