

A lengthy investigation on the influence of alcohol on memory was made by Dr. R. Vogt.* He used a Norwegian versified translation of Homer, and at every experiment he learnt by heart 25 verses of the translation, and took the time required for the first correct recitation. Most of the experiments were made immediately after breakfast, at 10-day intervals. The alcohol, mixed with water and fruit juice, or the control mixture containing no alcohol, was taken 10 to 15 minutes before the memorising began. A series of 66 observations showed that when 25 c.c. of alcohol were taken the time required for memorisation was increased 5 to 18 per cent. In a second series of experiments the alcohol was taken before breakfast, or on an empty stomach. In this instance even a dose of 15 c.c. of alcohol increased the time required for memorisation 27 per cent. A dose of 25 c.c. increased it 70 per cent., and the single experiment made with 30 c.c. of alcohol gave an increase of 115 per cent.

The influence of alcohol on the simultaneous performance both of mental and physical tests was studied by McDougall and Smith.† In the mental test an assistant read out twice to the subject a list of fifty related words, such as mountain, plain, ugly, beauty, oil, smooth. At the same time the subject performed the "dotting test" in which a paper tape, 1 inch wide, was drawn past a small window at a steady rate by mechanical means. On the tape was printed an irregular line of small red circles, and the subject attempted to make a dot in each circle as it passed by.

* Vogt, *Brit. Journ. Inebriety*, 1910, p. 114.

† W. McDougall and May Smith, *Med. Res. Co. Report No. 56*, 1920.