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DENTAL HEALTH AND DIETS
OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN
IN BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICHIGAN

Thesis for the Degree of M. S. MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE Virginia Elizabeth Buck 1945

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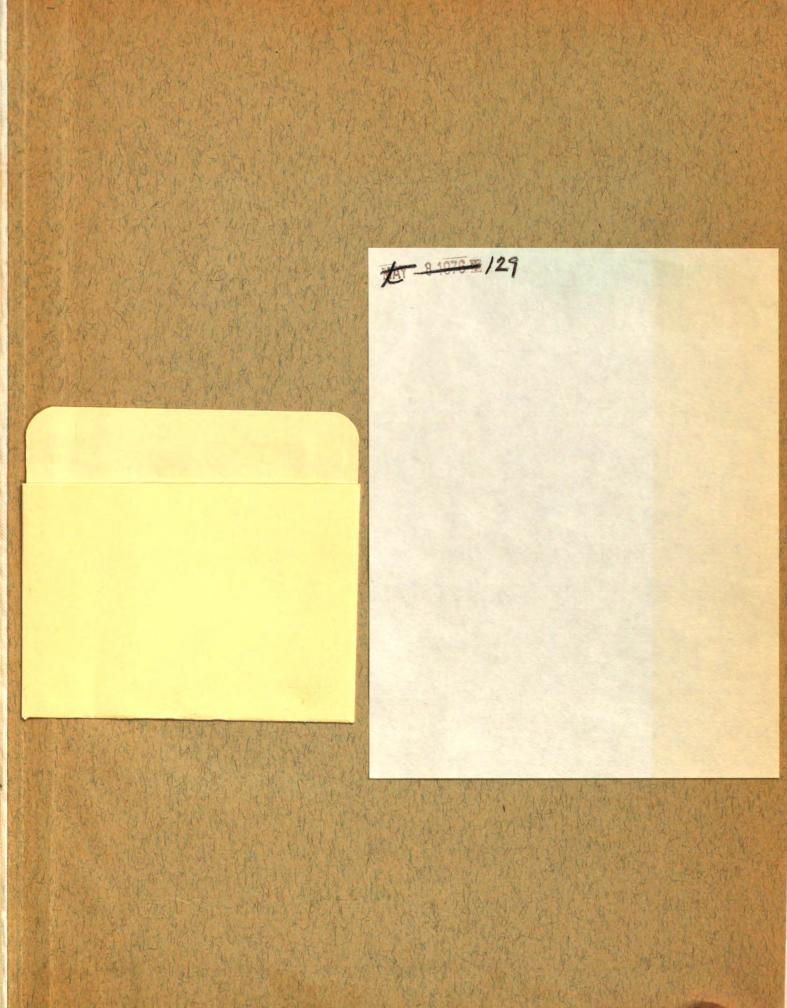
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DENTAL HEALTH AND DIETS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICHIGAN

bу

Virginia Elizabeth Buck

A THESIS

Submitted to the Graduate School of Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Department of Foods and Nutrition School of Home Economics

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	1
Review of Literature	3
Me thod	19
Description of Subjects	19
Method of collecting dental date	20
Method of collecting dietary data	21
Method of collecting medical data	22
Method of analyzing data	22
Results and Discussion	23
Dental status of subjects	23
Heights and weights of subjects	25
Diets of subjects	27
Summary	40
Appendix	42
List of Literature Cited	47

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TABL ES

Numb er	ritle	Page
1	Incidence of dental caries in permanent teeth of children by age and sex as reported by different investigators.	4
2	Reports of different investigators as to the diet relationship and dental caries.	8
3	Reports of different investigators as to the inadequacies of American diets.	13
4	The "t" values calculated from incidence of dental caries in Group I and Group II.	24
5	Average heights and weights of boys and girls in Group $\underline{\mathbf{I}}$.	26
6	Mean intakes of specific nutrients of Group I (by age and sex).	28
7	Mean intakes of specific nutrients of Group II (by age and sex).	30
8	Meen intakes of specific nutrients, of child- ren with less than the average number of ca- ries for their age group, as compared to the mean intakes of all children in the age group.	3 2
9	Percentage of children, age 6 to 9, below the National Research Council standards for specific nutrients.	34
10	Percentage of children, age 10 to 12, below the National Research Council standards for specific nutrients.	35
11	Percentage of children, age 13 to 15, below the National Research Council stendards for specific nutrients.	36

INTRODUCTION

Dental caries is one of the most prevalent diseases of the present time. It is rare, indeed, to find an adolescent child with no decayed teeth, and examinations of men inducted into the armed forces have shown that from 22 to 40 per cent of those rejected were rejected because of tooth and mouth conditions (Editorial, 1941).

Although it is well known that dental caries is common. few observers are agreed as to the cause of dental caries. An examination of the various theories of dental decay (Lynch. D.F., Kettering, C.F., and Gies, W.G., 1939) reveals that there are at least two opposing schools of thought. One group holds to the theory that dental decay is a result of some factor present in or missing from the oral environment. The other group contends that dental decay is the result of poor nutrition. Some of those who believe that dental decay is dependent upon the oral environment contend that the chemical composition of the saliva is the important factor. while others argue that the number of acid-forming bacteria controls the oral environment. Among the exponents of the theories of nutrition are those who emphasize the role of fluorine in prevention of caries. Still others maintain that the amount of carbohydrate, and especially refined

sugars, in the diet is the main factor in control of caries. Still others believe that dental decay is dependent upon the amount of vitamin D in the diet. Finally, there are those who hold to the theory that dental decay can be prevented by a diet which is adequate in all nutrients. However, these various groups as yet have not reached agreement; and so it would not seem ill-advised to investigate further the cause of dental caries.

When repeated dental examinations of children in a certain school in southwestern hichigan revealed that these children were more free from caries than children attending the surrounding schools, it was decided to observe these children and note what differences there might be between them and other children of their age group. As the first investigations revealed the fact that these children were all from one religious sect which leid unusual emphasis upon diet, it was decided to observe especially the diets of the children and to compare them with the diets of other children from the same geographical location. It was hoped that such observations might add to our information concerning the relationship between diet and dental decay. The observations noted are reported in this paper.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Knutson, Klein, and Palmer, in 1938, published the results of the dental examination of 4,416 children in Hagerstown, Maryland. Table 1 shows the number of permanent teeth decayed, missing or filled (DMF) per 100 children, by age and sex. The DMF of permanent teeth for boys increased gradually from a rate of 25.2 per 100 children at 6 years of age to 667.8 at 15 years of age. For girls, the corresponding increase was from 33.3 to 619.0.

ren by age and sex found by mast (1941) in the examination of 528,842 children. As can be seen by the table, these rates correspond closely to those reported by knutson, et al.

Studies in Angland by Rolleston (1943) showed that 49 per cent of 2,096 rural children, age 4 to 14, had an excess of dental caries (4 or more decayed teeth at any period). Rolleston could find no differences between sexes.

Miller (1943), also working in England, found that of British Army recruits (age 18) at enlistment, the average numbers of teeth missing, requiring extraction, requiring filling, filled and sound, were 3.7, 1.2, 2.3, 0.6 and 24.2, respectively.

The studies of Knutson, et al. (1938) and East (1941) show an increase in caries rate with age, and also show an

Incidence of dental carias in permanent teeth of children by age and sex as reported by different investigators. Table 1.

Children in E.M.C. Children in Berrien 2 children) Elementary School* (Group I) (92 children) (Group EI)(113 children)	01'S 30'YS 01'S	an cartes/100 Age DNF/100 Age DNF/100 hildren years children	117.0 6-9 167 162 6-9 195 182	258.5 10-12 355 156 10-12 521 260	420.0 13-15 587 433 13-15 717 379	GIRLS GIRLS GIRLS	131.8 6-9 182 152 6-9 233 176	282.5 10-12 283 227 10-12 521 224	451.0 13-15 700 472 13-15 738 532
East (1541) (528,842 children)	BOTS	Mean cartes/100 children	117.3	258.5	420.0	GIRLS	1:31.8	282.5	451.0
		Áge years	6-8	9-11	12-14		6-8	9-11	12-14
Knutson, Klein, and Pulner (193 (4,413 children	3073	DMF/100 children	25.2 58.4 110.4	178.7 239.3 275.6	357.2 396.9 508.5 667.5	GISIS	33.3 86.4 128.1	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	574.1 508.3
Kn ng ng		Age years	0 2 0	9 10 11	12 13 14		ω ~ ω α	011	7 E

* Dental examinations made by Dr. Fred Wertheimer of the Michigan State Department of Fublic Health (February, 1945).

apparent higher incidence of caries for girls at each chronologic age than for boys. East found, also, that the incidence of caries was greater in latitudes above 40 degrees, in communities where the mean winter temperature is below 30° F., in sections where the number of hours of sunshine per year is less than 2600, and in larger cities.

The effect of the seasons upon the incidence of caries is shown by East (1938), Erpf (1938), and McBeath and Zucker (1938), all of whom reported that there is a higher incidence of caries during the winter and early spring than there is during the summer and autumn.

That economic status has no apparent effect on the incidence of dental caries has been demonstrated in studies by Klein and Palmer (1940) on children in New Jersey and in New York City (1942). In both cases, the total number of permanent teeth, decayed, missing or filled, did not differ significantly between high and low income groups. Miller and Crombie (1939) also found that there was little difference in economic status between a group of 25 children with no caries and a group of 25 children with excess ceries.

The study of Miller and Crombie (1939) seemed to indicate that first-born children had less dental caries than later-born children. In their group of 25 caries free children, 15 were eldest children, 4 second and 6 third children, whereas in the group of 25 caries active children, 8 were

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eldest children, 4 second, 5 third, and 8 fourth or later. However, in 1943, Berk in a study of 198 5-year-old children concluded that the place of the sibling in the family group is a relatively unimportent factor in the incidence of dental caries in children.

Klein and Falmer (1940) found that the results of an analysis of dental caries in 4,416 elementary school children indicated that brothers and sisters of children susceptible to caries have over twice as many caries in both the permanent and deciduous teeth as do brothers and sisters of immune children.

There seems to be some confusion among authorities as to the effect of infantile rickets on the incidence of dental caries. Eliot, et al. (1943) found in their study that 56 per cent of non-hypoplastic teeth were carious, whereas 50 per cent of hypoplastic teeth were carious. This would indicate a positive relationship between dental caries and rickets. However, Shelling and Anderson (1936) found that the incidence of dental caries in a rachitic group of children was not greater than in a non-rachitic group.

The reports of different investigators as to the relationship of diet to dental caries is noted in Table 2.

To control dental caries by dietary means, at least four methods have been suggested. One of these methods has grown out of the discovery that in communities which have a higher amount of flourine in the drinking water, there is a low-

er incidence of dental ceries. This has led to the suggestion that drinking water be fortified with 1 p.p.m. of flourine (Dean, et al., 1941; Bibby, 1944).

Dean, et al. (1939) observed that the number of carious teeth per 100 children in communities where the water supply contained 1.7 to 1.8 p.p.m. of flourine was 201 and 205, respectively. In two communities where the water supply was practically free of flourine (0.2 p.p.m.), the corresponding figures were 401 and 633.

These findings have been confirmed by other investigators, including Deetherage (1943) who found fewer caries and a higher rate of teeth with no caries in selectees who had used drinking water containing 0.5-1.0 p.p.m. flourine during the whole of their life or during the first 8 years than in selectees who had used water containing 0 to 0.1 p.p.m. flourine.

Another method advanced for dietery control of caries is to inhibit the consumption of refined sugars and other carbohydrates. In 1936, Jay, et al. reported the results of an experiment in which a group of fifty-one children living in an institutuion were observed for a period of 17 months. During the first twelve months of the study, while on a low-sugar diet, 13 per cent of the children showed clinical signs of active dental caries. During the following 5 months all of the children received an unrestricted amount of candy. At the

Reports of different investigators as to the diet relationship and dental caries. Table 2.

Investigators	Sub jects	Diet of subjects	Dengal conditions of subjects
East, B.R. (1938)	159 children	Improved diet	Over 75% reported no new carles; less then 10% had active carles.
	74 children	Institutional diet	Less than 20% reported no new caries; 50% had active caries.
Jay, et al. (1936)	51 children living in an	LOw-sugar dist	13% showed clinical signs of active caries.
	institution	Unrestricted amount of candy	44% showed evidence of active caries.
Collins, et al. (1942)	366 university students	Average consumption of sugar, 10.5 teaspoonfuls	Caries-free.
		Average consumption of sugar, 18.2 teaspoonfuls	Caries-active.
McBeath and Ver-	Five groups of	No cod-liver oil	4.50 new carious surfaces per child.
1	each	400 I.U. of vitamin D from cod liver oil	2.48 new carious surfaces per child.
		800 I.U. of vitamin D from cod liver oil	1.65 new carious surfaces per child.
Boyd and Drain (1928)	28 diabetic	Diabetic diet, rich in mineral salts and vi- timins	Arrest of dental caries.

end of this time 44 per cent of the group showed evidence of active ceries. an increase of 31 per cent.

Bunting (1939) believes that dental caries is determined by the presence in the mouth of specific types of acid producing bacteria, e.g., L.acidophilus, the growth of which is encouraged by sugars and starches in the diet. me, therefore, suggests that "the only practical method for the reduction and elimination of L.acidophilus overgrowth in the mouth is by drastic reduction of sugars and starches in the diet."

Jay (1940) and Collins, et al. (1942) also recommend the reduction of sugars and carbohydrate to prevent dental caries.

Whyte (1943) found that a group of boys, age 6 to 16, receiving for two months a daily supplement of 2 oz. fudge or macaroon bar, had a higher incidence of dental caries than a group of controls receiving no supplement of sweets. As these studies do not take into consideration the fact that 2 oz. of fudge comprises about 250 calories which would undoubtedly replace other food in the diet, they are difficult to analyze; for there is a question as to whether the increase of incidence of caries is due to the added sugar or to other subtracted nutrients.

In France, Dechaume and Cauhepe (1943) reported that of 500 children examined in 1942, 30 per cent had no caries. In 1941, only 17 per cent of the children examined were free from caries. They believed that this apparent anomaly could be

explained by the fact that the diet, though restricted, was alkaline in character, and that cakes and sweets had disappeared.

A third method proposed for dietary control of dental caries is by vitamin D therapy. East (1938) found that when three teaspoonfuls of cod liver oil, or 400 units of vitamin D milk, were added to the diet of children, the rate of caries increase was greatly reduced. McBeath and Zucker (1938) observed that the administration of graded amounts of vitamin D as vitimin D milk resulted in graded caries prevention.

In 1942, McBeath and Verlin published a further study on the role of vitamin D in control of dental caries. In this experiment, five groups of about forty children each were observed during one school year. No changes were made in the diet, except the addition of vitamin D to the milk of four of the groups. During this time, the control group showed an increase of 4.50 new carious surfaces per child. In the group receiving a daily supplement of 400 units from cod liver oil, there were 2.48 new carious surfaces per child. The maximum effect obtained in this study (a reduction to 1.65 new carious tooth surfaces) was shown in the group receiving a daily supplement from cod liver oil of 800 units of vitamin D per child.

Still another method has been suggested for the nutritional control of dental caries; this method insists upon a well-balanced diet containing an optimal amount of all the nutrients which are known to maintain good health in humans. One of the first investigators to note the influence of an optimal diet

upon the teeth was Boyd. In 1928, Boyd and Drain published their first observation of the influence of a diet rich in minerals and vitamins in arresting dental caries in a group of diabetic children. They noted that in a group of 28 well controlled diabetic children, there was no further progress of dental caries, although 82 per cent of the children had shown definitely progressive caries prior to the establishment of the dietary control. Further observations published by Boyd (1940) 1942; 1943; 1944) have confirmed the first reports, and have led him to conclude that the progress of dental caries can be stopped by giving the child an optimal diet.

The conclusions drawn by Boyd have been criticized, because, it is claimed, the arrest of dental caries in the diabetic children was due not to the nutritional value of the diets but to the low amount of carbohydrate in the diets. To answer these criticisms, Boyd (1944) re-analyzed his data in terms of fat versus carbohydrate in the diet. He could find no constant or significant difference in the average rates of progression of caries between two groups of children whose carbohydrate ingestion differed by 100 per cent.

Howe, et al. (1942) observed that a group of children who had received nutritional guidance for a period of over 3 years had 56 per cent fewer cavities than another group who had received no such instruction. The difference was greatest in the 11 to 12 year group (83 per cent fewer cavities) and least in

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the 6 to 7 year group (27 per cent fewer cavities).

Bowes (1938, 1943) found that in two groups of dental patients, clinic and private, no diet was adequate in all essentials. The greatest number of deficiencies or deviations from desirable standards were shown in the carbohydrate-fat ratio, iron, and vitamins D and B.

Within the past ten years many studies have been made of the dietary habits of American families (Table 3). In 1935, Cowles, in an observation of the winter food consumption of Wisconsin farm families, noted that 26.3 per cent were deficient in calories. 7.0 per cent in protein. 15.6 in calcuim. 31.6 in iron. 21.0 in phosphorus. 3.5 in all of these nutrients. and 10.5 in four or more nutrients. The common dietary errors were the use of few vegetables other than white potatoes, small consumption of citrus fruits and almost complete lack of use of whole grain cereals. Many of the families failed to use sufficient milk, but the consumption of meat was very high. The adequacy of the diet was clearly and directly related to the money value of the food eaten. No deficiency in protein. calcuim or phosphorus, and little deficiency in calories occurred when as much as \$2.40 per adult male was spent per week. This was due, however, to the large quantity of food consumed. rather than to judicious selection.

Bersook and Halverson (1940), in reporting the nutritional adequacy of the diets of 50 families in Pasedena. California.

Reports of different investigators as to the inadequacies of American diets. Table 3.

Investigators	Subjects	Diets of subjects	Physical conditions of subjects
Cowles (1935)	Wisconsin farm families	26.3% of families deficient in calories; 7.0%, in protein; 31.6% in tron; 15.6%, in calcium; 21.0% in phosphorus.	
Borsook and Hal- Verson (1940)	50 families in Pasadena	12 families deficent in 3 or more nutrients; 18 families had an adequate diet.	of 56 children under 18 years of age examined, 17 showed no caries. No correlation between high calcium intake and freedom from caries.
Stiebeling(1941)	Farm families	50% had good diets, 25% had fair diets, 25% had poor diets.	-10-
	Village and city families	20% had good diets, 45% had fair diets, 35% had poor diets.	
Milam (1942)	Morth Carolina	Daily calorie intake of adults was about 2000. Intakes of thianine and riboflavin about onehalf of minimum normal standard. Intakes of calcium and vitamin Cabout one-half of the normal standard.	Vitemin C intake of blood was found to be below 0.3 mg. per 100 ml. plasma in 61%.
Youmans, et al. (1942)	Riral population in middle Tennessee	A moderate to severe deficiency in calorie intake.	A significent and often severe deficiency in body weight.
Hardy, et al. (1943)	7393 c hildren in Chicago	Relatively few had an adequate dist.	Gross physical nanifestations sug- gestive of poor mutrition were ex- hibited by 60% of children.

found that most of those families spending less than \$2.08 per person per week obtained an inadequate dist. The families generally had adequate intakes of protein, iron and vitamin . The calcium intake of 21 families was inadequate; only 8 families obtained between 4,000-6,000 I.U. of vitamin A; and approximately one-third of the families were receiving less than the recommended amount of vitamin B₁. As to calories, more families with ample funds for food had an ample caloric intake than those on restricted budgets. Twelve families were found to be deficient in three or more essential items; eighteen families had an adequate diet. The investigators reported that the milk consumption of these Pasadena families was somewhat above the rest of the country, and the fruit and fresh vegetable consumption much higher. They could find no correlation between high calcium intake and freedom from caries. nor was there any correlation between lack of caries and high food expenditure.

A dietary study of 29 boys and 23 girls, 14 to 19 years of age, on a lacto-ovo-vegetarian diet, reported by Foote and Eppright (1940), revealed the following as the average daily intakes: for boys, 3126 calories or 48 calories per kilogram of body weight, 90 gm. protein or 1.4 gm. per kilogram, 1.44 gm. calcium, 1.95 gm. phosphorus, and 0.0182 gm. iron; for girls, 2017 calories or 35 calories per kilogram of body weight, 53 gm. protein or 0.90 gm. per kilogram, 0.79 gm. calcium,

1.01 gm. phosphorus, and 0.0094 gm. iron.

Stiebeling (1941), in reporting the survey conducted by the United States Departments of Agriculture and Labor in 1936-37, points out that of the families studied, 27 per cent had good diets, 38 per cent had fair diets and 35 per cent had poor diets. Fifty per cent of farm families had good diets, 25 per cent fair diets and 25 per cent poor diets; whereas of village and city families, 20 per cent had good diets, 45 per cent had fair diets and 35 per cent had poor diets. Farm families apparently fared better then village or city families because they ate larger quantities of protective foods. Stiebeling's report verifies the observation of other investigators that families which had larger incomes had better diets then those with smaller incomes.

Mack, et al. (1942) made a study of the dietery habits and nutritional status of 147 children of families living in a college community. The results were compared with those for children of an industrial community of lower economic status. The children in the community in which income and educational status of the parents were higher were found to show generally better nutritional status. Although the intake of protective foods varied with income in both communities, intakes of these foods throughout all income groups of the college community were higher than those of the industrial groups.

Milam (1942), in a nutrition survey of a small North Carolina community in 1940-41, found the dietary levels of celories, vitamin B₁, riboflavin, calcium, and vitamin C to be below that recommended by the National Research Council.

The diets of high school students in New York City, as reported by Wiehl (1942, 1944), show that of 2,000 pupils from low-income families, 21 per cent had less than two-thirds of the standard allowances for calories, 5 per cent for protein, 28 per cent for calcium, 17 per cent for iron, 38 per cent for vitamin A, 14 per cent for vitamin B₁, 25 per cent for riboflavin and 29 per cent for ascorbic acid. The calorie intake for private high school pupils was, on the average, approximately equal to their estimated calorie needs.

Youmans, et al. (1942), working in Tennessee, found the mean intake of calories for boys and girls, age 7 to 9 years, to be 1,726; for boys and girls, age 10 to 12 years, it was 1,855; for boys, age 13 to 15, the mean caloric intake was 2,494; and for girls of the same age, 1,691.

In the spring of 1942, Widdowson and McCance made a survey of the diets of 52 boys in schools in England. The nutritive value of the diets was compared with results obtained from a similar study in 1936-39. It was found that the calorie supply from meat, fats and sugar was lower in 1942 than in the previous study, but the total calorie intake was maintained by an increased consumption of unrationed foods. All diets contained as much protein, Ca, P, re, and vitamin B₁ as in the previous study, but the average intakes of animal protein had fallen to between 33 and 47 gm. and vitamin C to between 15

and 17 mg. daily.

A study of the diets of 524 high school girls in Minnesota and Kenses in 1939-40 (Leichsenring, et al., 1943) showed low consumption of eggs, milk and green and yellow vegetables. The observed calorie intakes were less than those recommended by the Committee on Foods and Nutrition of the National Research Council. The protein content of the diet, approximately 70 gm. per day, failed to meet the recommended daily allowance of 80 gm. for girls 13 to 15 years old and 75 gm. for girls of 16 to 20 years. At all ages the intake of Ca, P, and Fe were below the proposed standards. The mean intake of vitemin A appeared to be adequate, but some individuals received much less than the recommended allowance of 5,000 I. U. daily. The intake of vitemin C was variable. No serious deficiency of vitemin B was noted, but the riboflavin intake was probably inadequate.

Hardy, et al. (1943) conducted a survey which extanded from Jenuary 1939 to August 1941 and included 7,393 children of different national and racial groups and a wide distribution of economic and social conditions in the city of Unicago. The following are the major findings of the survey. Gross physical manifestations suggestive of poor nutrition were exhibited by 60 per cent of the children examined. Ratings of poor general condition varied from 48 per cent at the relief level to 13 per cent at the highest level. The diet patterns of 72 per cent of the children failed to meet a standard of adequacy lower than that recommended by the National Research Council. The diets

of 89 per cent of the Negro children failed to reach the minimum adequate standard. The foods least often lacking were protein foods and those most often lacking, fruits and vegetables. Dietary inadequacies were common at all ages and in no age group were the diets of more than one-third of the children classed as adequate. Inadequate diets occurred in all the socio-economic groups examined; 92 per cent at the lowest level and 41 per cent at the highest.

As can be seen from the above discussion as summarized in Tables 2 and \$7, dietary surveys have revealed many deficiencies in the average American diet. Evidences of malnutrition have been reported which confirm the poor dietary habits. Very few investigators have tried to correlate the average diets of American familias with their dental health. Those investigators who have reported the effect of diet upon dental decay usually have worked with controlled diets. In the investigation reported in this paper, the usual diets of the elementary school children studied were observed in order to discover whether the dental health could be correlated with the quality of the food ingested.

METHOD

In order to investigate further the relationship of diet to dental caries in children, two groups of elementary children were chosen for observation. Group I consisted of 92 children from the Emmanuel Missionary College Elementary School. children's ages ranged from 6 years to 15 years. Their school grades ranged from the first through the eighth year. The Emmanuel Missionary College Elementary School is a private school controlled by the Senenth-day Adventist Church. It is situated on the campus of Ammanuel Missionary College, about two miles from the village of Berrien Springs. Michigan. Most of the children attending this elementary school live within five miles of the school. Some of the children live in Berrien Springs, or on outlying farms. Many of the children live in a small residential settlement close to the college campus. The occupations of their parents range from fermers to leborers to college teachers. All of the children come from Seventh-day Adventist homes. As repeated examinations of the teeth of these children have revealed a lower incidence of caries than found in the examinations of the teeth of children in the surrounding area. and as the Seventh-day Adventist families lay stress upon diet. this group was chosen as the experimental group in this study. For clarity, the group of children from the Ammanuel Missionary College Elementary School will be known throughout this paper

as Group I.

The control group, Group II, consisted of 113 children from the Berrien Springs Public School. These children were chosen at random from the school files, but the age, sex, and school grade of each child was matched as closely as possible to the age, sex, and school grade of the children in the experimental group. The Berrien Springs Public School is located within the village of Berrien Springs. Berrien Springs is situated in the southwestern portion of Michigan in the county of Berrien. It is approximately 12 miles from St. Joseph, Michigan, and about 20 miles from South Bend, Indiana. Some of the children observed in this group lived in the village of Berrien Springs, while others lived on surrounding farms. Their parent's occupations were for the most part farmers and laborers, but a few children came from homes of the professional class. quiry was made as to the religious affiliations of these families, but it is not believed that there were any Seventh-day Adventist children among this group. This group was chosen as the control group because of its proximity to the Ammanuel Missionary College Elementary School. It was hoped that this would lessen any veristions due to the physical environment. Henceforth, the group of children from the Berrien Springs Public School will be known in this paper as Group II.

Method of collecting dental data. -- All dental examinations of the children were made on two successive days in rebruary,

1945. The children were examined by Dr. Fred Wertheimer, a dentist from the michigan State Department of Public Health. The examinations were made by an exploratory tine and, hence, do not show those cavities which are not reached by the tine. At the time of examination, a record was made for each child of the number of decidaous teeth which were decayed or filled, and of the number of permanent teeth erupted, decayed, filled, missing or requiring extraction. This method of dental examination has been the standard procedure of the Michigan State Department of Public Health.

Method of collecting dietary data .-- The dietary habits of the children were observed by personal interview with each child. Each child was interviewed once. In order to do this, two months were required, beginning the latter part of January and continuing until the latter part of March. 1945. The children were int terviewed singly, during the school hours, at the school, but in a room apart from the regular class. Each child was asked to tall what he had eaten the day before, and the approximate proportions of food. This was recorded by the interviewer as the child was talking. At the same time, the interviewer tried to put the child at ease and to encourage his participation in the interview. If, after recording the diet, it was noticed that one or more of the "basic seven" foods was lacking from the menu. the child was asked to reveal. if possible, when he had last eaten that food. He was also asked specifically about the amount of candy and other sweets which he had consumed recently. Several questions of a more general nature were also asked. The forms used in the interviews are found in the appendix of this report.

It had been planned originally to interview each child twace in this same manner, but as time did not permit, this plan was abendoned. It had also been originally planned to interview the mother of each child, but as a few such interviews did not reveal any additional information beyond that supplied by the child, this plan was discarded as being unnecessary.

Method of collecting medical data. The height and weight records, as well as the records of past diseases, of the children in Group I were copied from the school's medical reports. In Group II there were no medical records available. For this group the record of past diseases was received from the child at the time of the interview. In Group II the heights and weights of a few of the younger children were measured by the interviewer. It was possible to do this when the interviewer had access to a room in which there were scales and measuring rod.

Methods of analyzing data. -- The nutritive values of the diets were calculated by the short method of analysis (Donelson, E.G., and Leichsenring, J.M., 1942). Data were subjected to standard statistical analyses by the methods outlined by Baten (1938).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A comparison of the DMF values for Groups I and II (Table 1) with the values reported by Knutson, et al. (1938) and those reported by East (1941) shows that the caries incidence for Groups I and II is greater than the previously reported values for all age and sex groups except for girls. 10 to 12 years of age, in Group I. In this group, the DMF per 100 children is 283±227. The DMF per 100 children for the same age and sex group, as reported by knutsen, et al. (1938) ranges from 263.7 to 374.1. East (1941) reported the mean caries per 100 children for girls, 9 to 11 years of age, as 282.5. It appears, therefore, that although the dental ceries rate is somewhat above average for all the other groups studied, the dental caries rate for girls, 10 to 12 years of age, in Group I is well within the range of data for children of similar economic status, or perhaps even slightly below that range, as reported by Knutsen, et al. (1938) and East (1941).

The mean DMF per 100 children is greater for Group II
in each age and sex group than it is for Group I. However,
"t" values (Table 4) indicate that the only group in which the
dental caries incidence is significantly lower for Group I than
for Group II is the group of girls from 10 to 12 years of age.
In Group 1, the girls of 10 to 12 years of age had a DMF of
283:227 per 100 children. In Group II, the corresponding fi-

gure was 521±224. The "t" value for these two figures is 3.09; there is less than one chance in a hundred that this is a random result.

Table 4. The "t" values calculated from incidence of dental caries in Group I and Group II.

Age	Degrees of Freedom	"t" values
	BOYS	
6-9	37	0.49
10-12	3 0	1.59
13-15	35	1.58
	GIRLS	
6-9	35	0.89
10-12	37	3.09
13-15	32	0.21

It has been established that when boys and girls are growing repidly there is a greater need for nutrients (Sherman, 1941). Also during repid growth, there may be competition among the various parts of the body for the nutrients supplied. If not enough nutrients are provided to meet all demands, the more essential tissues tend to develop at the expense of structures less essential to life. Because of this and the fact that all groups of the experimental children showed extensive dental

decay, it was considered wise to investigate the heights and weights of the children studied.

As it was not possible to record the heights and weights of most of the children in Group II, the children in Group I were divided into "low-caries" and "high-caries" groups in order to obtain a similar comparison (Table 5). At 6 to 9 years the "low-caries" group represented all those who had less than 2 carious teeth; the "high-caries" group represented all those with 2 or more carious teeth. At 10 to 12 years, the "low-caries" group was composed of all those with less than 4 carious teeth, whereas the "high-caries" group was composed of those with 4 or more carious teeth. At 13 to 15 years of age, the "low-caries" group represented those with less than 6 carious teeth, and the "high-caries" group represented those with 6 or more carious teeth.

In each age-sex group the mean weight is compared with the ranges for weight and weight as found in the Meredith Tables. It will be not iced that the average height and weight for each age group is well within the Meridith range, indicating that the children in Group I were growing normally. The heights of these children, however, are toward the top of the range while the weights are near the middle of the range, which would tend to show that these children are tell and thin.

In three age-sex groups the differences in height and weight between the "low-caries" and the "high-caries" groups

Table 5. Average heights and weights of boys and girls in Group I.

	•	6-9 years		ंत	l)-12 years			13-15 years	នដ
1					30.78				
<u> </u>	No. of children	Height in.	Weight 10.	No. of children	Teight n in.	Weight lb.	No. of c	Heicht in.	Height Ib.
Range according to "eredith(1943)		44-56	18-87		52-03	60-110		55 – 70	78-147
Low-ceries Figh-caries	20	53.) 53.0	ස් දෙරීම වැට්	4 4	56 33 50	0.1.0 108.0	2- 30	68 0.0 0.0	101.0 104.0
					CIRIS				
Ren e seconding to "eredit" (1043)		99. 127	₹9 − 65		₹	ವಿ೧ <mark>೯</mark> -೧೮		:: - :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	(2-103
Tou-oaries Figh-caries	9 2	01.0 0.0 0.0	0.0°	c c	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0	0•E, 30€	သေးယ	ଦ୍ର In ଜ୍ୟୁ	107.55

is almost negligible. These groups are the boys and girls, 6 to 9 years old, and the girls, 13 to 15 years old. However it will be noticed here, that the "high-caries" groups are slightly larger than the "low-caries" groups. Among the boys, 10 to 12 years of age and 13 to 15 years of age, the "high-caries" groups are definitely much larger than the "low-caries" groups. But in the group of girls, 10 to 12 years of age, the "low-caries" groups are definitely much larger than the "low-caries" groups. But in the group of girls, 10 to 12 years of age, the "low-caries" group shows an excess in height and weight over the "high-caries" group.

It is usually considered that an adequate diet will produce better growth then an inadequate diet. If this is true, it would be expected that the taller and heavier children in this study had better diets than the others. But it has also been maintained that an adequate diet will prevent dental caries. If this is true, then it would be expected that the "low-caries" children, who in all age-sex groups but one were the smaller children, would have the better diets. In order to try to understand this apparent anomally, an analysis of the food intakes of the children studied was necessary.

The mean intakes of specific nutrients for Group I by age and sex are shown in Table 6. It will be observed that in every group the mean number of calories ingested is below the standard set by the National Research Council. The same is true for iron and miscin intakes. In only one group (boys 6 to 9 years of age) is the calcium intake considered adequate,

	<u></u>			
Age of	c Thiamine	Ribo- flavin	Niacin	o in
Subjects	mg.	mg.	mg.	
			J	:
				mean
6-9	1.35±0.40	2.19±0.67	9.1±2.6	
NRC Sta	1.0	1.5	10	· le-
10-12 NRC Sta	1.30±0.33 1.2	2.08±0.87 1.8	8.1±2.5 12	the
13-15	1.45±0.46	1.83±0.6 5	9.6±2.9	, "few
NRC Sta	1.6	2.4	16	1 u.s
				1e
				b y
6-9	1.09±0.20 1.0	1.61±0.33 1.5	7.5±1.9 10	đ
nRC Sta			·	•
10-12 NRC Sta	1.28±0.38 1.2	1.79±1.08 1.8	7.3±1.8 12	ars
	1.15±0.34	1.68±0.78	7.5±2.4	an
13-15 NRC Sta	1.4	2.0	14	search
				ever,
				nges-
				s in-
Th				uete
				the
*T	through courtesy	of the Lon	a Linda	hree
rood Com				n in-
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although it approaches adequacy in the group of girls, 10 to 12 years of age. The intakes of ascorbic acid are adequate in only three age-sex gro ups; the intakes of thiamine in four groups; and the intakes of riboflavin in four groups. The mean intakes of vitamin A in each group are above the National Research Council standards, however the very large standard deviations indicate that many of the children did not reach the mean intake, while a very few greatly exceeded it. These few children tended to raise the average of the whole group, thus giving a mean that is unrepresentative of the intakes of the group.

The mean intekes of specific nutrients for Group II by age and sex are shown in Table 7. Here, it will be noticed that the mean caloric intake for boys and girls, 6 to 9 years old, is adequate, but for the other age-sex groups, the mean number of calories ingested falls short of the National Research Council standards. A comparison with Group I reveals, however, that in every age-sex group, the mean number of calories ingested by Group II is greater than the mean number of calories ingested by Group I. In Group II the protein intake is adequate in four age-sex groups, the calcium intake in two groups, the iron intake in three groups, the ascorbic acid intake in three groups, the riboflavin intake in five groups and the niacin intake in three groups. As in Group I, the mean intakes of vitamin A for Group II are all above the National Research Council standards, however, here again the large standard deviations

					•
Age of Subjects	Th iamine	kibo- flavin	Niacin		in-
	mg.	mg.	mg.	•	, the
					mc
					oro-
6-9 NRC Stai	1.58 <u>+</u> 0.21 1.0	2.32±0.77 1.5	10.9±4.4 10		er.
10-12 NRC Stai	1.47±0.37 1.2	2.26±0.71 1.8	13.8±3.7 12		ı were
13-15	1.33±0.42	2.48±1.23			3
NRC Stei	1.6	2.4	16	•	a,
					nu-
					r
6-9 NRC Stai	1.43±0.51 1.0	2.21±0.61 1.5	10.2±4.1 10		these
10-12 NRC Stai	1.26±0.30 1.2	1.87±0.62 1.8	10.8±2.7 12		∢e of
13-15	1.29±0.39	1.96±0.91	11.3+4.9		nay
MRC Stal	1.4	2.0	14	•	np-
					on-
					83-
Th e					æ
					on-
					ts
					re
					well

indicate that many of the children do not have an adequate intake.

It would seem from Tables 6 and 7 that, on the whole, the children from Group II are better fed than the children from Group I. This is especially true in intakes of calories, protein, iron, riboflavin and niacin. The reason for the lesser amount of protein, iron and niacin ingested by the children in Group I may be explained by the fact that the children were mostly non-meat esters because of religious principles. As meat is one of the main sources of protein, iron and niacin, diets lacking this food would be likely to be low in these nutrients. As the children in Group II in general had better diets it is regrettable that data concerning the growth of these children were not available.

On the other hand, Group I seems to have higher intake of calcium, vitamin A and ascorbic acid then Group II. This may be explained by pointing out that a decrease in meat consumption in Group I probably was accompanied by an increased consumption of fruits and vegetables. Calcium, vitamin A and ascorbic acid have all been shown by experimentation to play a role in tooth formation. The role of these nutrients in controlling dental decay is not as well understood.

In Table 8, the mean intakes of the specific nutrients for all the boys and girls in each age group is noted. Here it will be noted that the mean intake of each nutrient is well

.

2.

rable 8. for their age group,

	Thiamine	Kibo- flavin	Niacin	
	mg.	mg.	mg.	
Mean intakes for all children	1.38	2.10	9•6	
Mean intakes for children with le than 2 cariouste	1.41	1.99	9.6	3
NRC Standards	1.0	1.5	10	
Mean intekes for all children	1.33	1.99	10.2	3
Meen intakes for children with less than 4 carrious teeth	1.3 2	1.96	9.1	i ents es
NRC Stendards	1.2	1.8	12	
Mean intakes for all boys	1.38	2.19	11.5	
Meen intakes for boys with less then 6 carious teeth	1.23	1.57	10.0	.n
NRC Stenderds	1.6	2.4	16	
Mean intakes for all girls	1.23	1.84	9.6	
Meen intakesfor girls with less than 6 carious teeth	1.06	1.61	8 .0	0-
				at
MRC Standards	1.4	2.0	14	. e
* Values c				ıđ

above the standard for boys and girls, 6 to 9 years of age.

In the 10 to 12 year old group, the National Research Council standards are met for protein, vitamin A, ascorbic acid, thiamine and riboflavin. In the group of boys, 13 to 15 years old, the National Research Council standard is met for vitamin A only, and the same is true of girls, 13 to 15 years old. These data seem to indicate that as the children grow older, their food intakes become less and less adequate, while their rate of growth becomes more rapid and the incidence of dental caries becomes greater.

Table 8 also shows the mean intakes of the specific nutrients for the "low-caries" groups. In almost every case, these values are lower than the mean intakes for all children; however in each group, the differences in mean intakes is so small that it could well be considered within the range of error for the method used.

Tables 9, 10 and 11 compare the percentage of children in Group I who are below the National Research Council standards for each nutrient with the percentage of children in Group II who are below these standards. As in Tables 6 and 7, these tables again show that on the whole the children in Group II are as well fed, or better fed than the children in Group I; and again, this is especially true in intakes of calories, protein, iron and niacin. However, again, it will be noticed that in several cases there are fewer children in Group I below the National Research Council standards for calcium, vitamin A and

Table 9. Percentage of chillre, ree 6 to 9, below the Neticral Research Council standers for abble 9.

		Caleries	विकास स	C.leiun	Iron	Vitemia A	Ascorbic Laid	ซหาระการ	Ribo-	itsein
			51 8)	.• to)°	•	**************************************	60	• •} • .
TIC St	TC Standards	2000	60	1.0	10	5500	3.3	1.3	1.5	10
					<u>ာ</u>	50°3				
Gravo	• 0.	45.	***	٠٠,	ڊ <u>ئ</u>	e o	* °.	• ♥.	ڊي ا	400
H	14	57.1	6. 34 6. 34	35.7	0.03	ပ (၁ (၁)	0.00	51.4	c -	4.1.
II	C8	35.0	25.J	30.0		85.0	0.03	13.7	10.0	○ • ⊖s
					THE CO	~) +-:				
н	14	71.4	71.4	5) E	:0 :0 :1	0,0	76.3	28.3	•	92.9
II	13	ପ୍ର _• ଅ	1.83	20.0	38. • 51	۲. 0	라 방	1. 23.	0.00	83 . 8

Fercentage of children, oge 10 to 12, below the Mational Research Council standards for special specific nutrients. Table 10.

		Calcriss	Frotein	Calcium	Iron	Vitamin	Ascorbic	Thisnine	Ribe-	Macin
			•m•	• <u>U.</u> j	<u>.</u>	¥ E.	• भुट ः	• \div	ит∧втт	• 5
THC St	INC Standords	2500	0.6	2.1	12	4500	75	1.2	8°-1	12
						3073				
Group	• • •	4. 5	€ 0	*,0,	آن غ	1,7	*	* °	* `	• Ω
н	11	0 . Lo	63.6	45.0	03.6	۲۵ د.	ት * ≘ ይ	ιο • • •	∷ †⊖	g. []
II	1,	ග ල ල	\$3°	6 . Cr	به ای	୍ଷ	67 •	6.00	କ୍ଷ୍ମ ଓ: ଜଃ	10 10 10
					SIST					
н	17	54.1	10°	# 연 합니 기업	- ∰ € ? 1 .	T. 13	တ <u>့</u> မှာ	က <u>်</u>	6	100.0
Ħ	t- r-f	κ∰ 6 6 6	C ()	() () (0)	C. to	C -	្ត	ભ િ		C ()

remonstance of abildram, mme 13 to 15, below the TiG standers of an specific matricate Table 11.

60.0		G 0] 001 93	Wiedowy.	Galeina	Inon	Victoria A	.sec 1952.	ीर्धाशास्ति	71300-	ไว้แล้ว
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10.0 86.7 78.8 70.0 88.8 80.0 70.0 10 84.8 77.0 78.4 83.4 83.4 78.9 70.0 10 86.0 80 1.3 15 0.00 80 1.4 8.0 1 00.9 92.7 71.4 90.9 07.3 07.1 71.4 02.3 1 70.3 C1.1 C7.5 67.7 77.8 79.8 70.5 05.6	Englostenderes	Coss	ic.	₽•1	to el	5000	C. 3.	S. L.	₹.	ा
1 0.0 89.7 78.8 72.0 88.3 50.0 70.0 E0.0 IX 84.8 77.9 86.4 55.4 55.5 75.2 E0.0 IX 25.0 50 1.3 15 50.0 F0 1.4 8.0 IX 25.0 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50										
1 0.00 85.7 75.3 75.0 87.3 50.00 70.0 E0.00 IX 84.8 77.5 77.5 75.4 83.5 75.0 E0.00 IX 85.2 77.5 75.4 83.5 75.2 75.2 75.2 75.2 75.2 75.2 75.2 75		•	• 0	•	5 0.	• *	• 19	• ^;		• 0′
\$4.8 77.5 78.4 63.4 63.5 78.9 53.2 7 \$5.0 30 73.4 63.4 63.5 7 1.4 83.2 7 1.3 1.4 83.2 1.3 1.4 83.2 1.4 83.2 1.4 83.2 1.3 1.4 83.2 1.3 1.4 83.3 1.3 1.4 1.4 83.3 1.3 </td <td></td> <td>0.0</td> <td>₽ €00</td> <td>86°84</td> <td>6.54</td> <td>55.53</td> <td>60.08</td> <td>C°C.</td> <td>C°C3</td> <td>100.0</td>		0.0	₽ €00	86°84	6.54	55.53	60 . 08	C°C.	C°C3	100.0
ESTA CON 1.3 15 COND FO 1.4 E.S. 13 COND FO 1.4 E.S. 13 COND FO. 1.4 E.S. 14 COND FO. 14 COND FO		8. 10.	©• ; <u>E</u> -	°. • €		₩ G	\$3 . €8	0 • 33 20	8. 8.	20.02
2500 60 1.4 8.5 1 3 3 3 3 3 3 05.9 92.7 71.4 05.9 05.3 37.1 34.3 3 05.3 01.1 67.3 01.4 05.3 37.1 34.3 3					THE STATE OF THE S					
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of Group I and Group II are found some differences that cannot be noted between the other groups. Here it is observed that Group I has fewer girls below the National Research Council standards in calcium, vitamin A, ascorbic acid, thismine and riboflavin. This is the only group in which the diets of Group I may be said to be better than those of Group II.

The meen intakes of nutrients observed here may partially explain why the larger children are in the "high-caries" groups. It has been pointed out previously that with a faster rate of growth, there is more competition within the body for food nutrients. It would seem logical, then, to essume that with a similar intake of nutrients, the group of children who were growing faster would be more likely to have a greater rate of dental decay than the slower growing group. The nutrients which in the slower growing child are used to build teeth may be needed in the faster growing child to build bones and muscle.

However, this explanation does not account for the group of girls, age 10 to 12, who had a low incidence of caries and a rapid rate of growth. The analysis of the diets of girls, 10 to 12 years old, in Group I showed that their food intakes were better in calcium and vitamins than the food intakes of the corresponding children in Group II. In no other groups were the differences in diet so striking. It may be assumed from this that when the diet approaches adequacy, an increased rate of

growth may be accompanied with a low incidence of caries.

It would seem from the above discussion that dental caries is not a simple effect which can be attributed to one prevailing cause, but rather the result of a multiplicity of factors among which may be adequacy of diet and rate of growth. This study apparently confirms the observations of Boyd (1940) that as diets more nearly approach adequacy, children grow more rapidly and also have fewer dental caries.

No clear-cut observation could be made as to the effect of carbohydrate upon dental caries from this study. For the most part, the carbohydrate consumption for Group I was greater than for Group II, but this did not hold true in all cases. The number of servings of sweets (sugar, cookies, cake, soft drinks, etc.) per child per day of the "low-caries" group and the "high-caries" group in Group I was computed. In the "low-caries" group the mean number of servings of sweets was 3.0 per child per day. In the "high-caries" group, the mean number of servings was 3.5. This difference does not seem large enough to warrant any conclusion that sweets may increase dental caries.

No correlation could be found between the incidence of dental caries and the intake of vitamin D, but again the data are too few to warrant any conclusion. Thirty-eight per cent of children in the "low-caries" group were known to be receiving vitamin supplements. Forty per cent of the children in the "high-caries" group were known to be receiving vitamin sup-

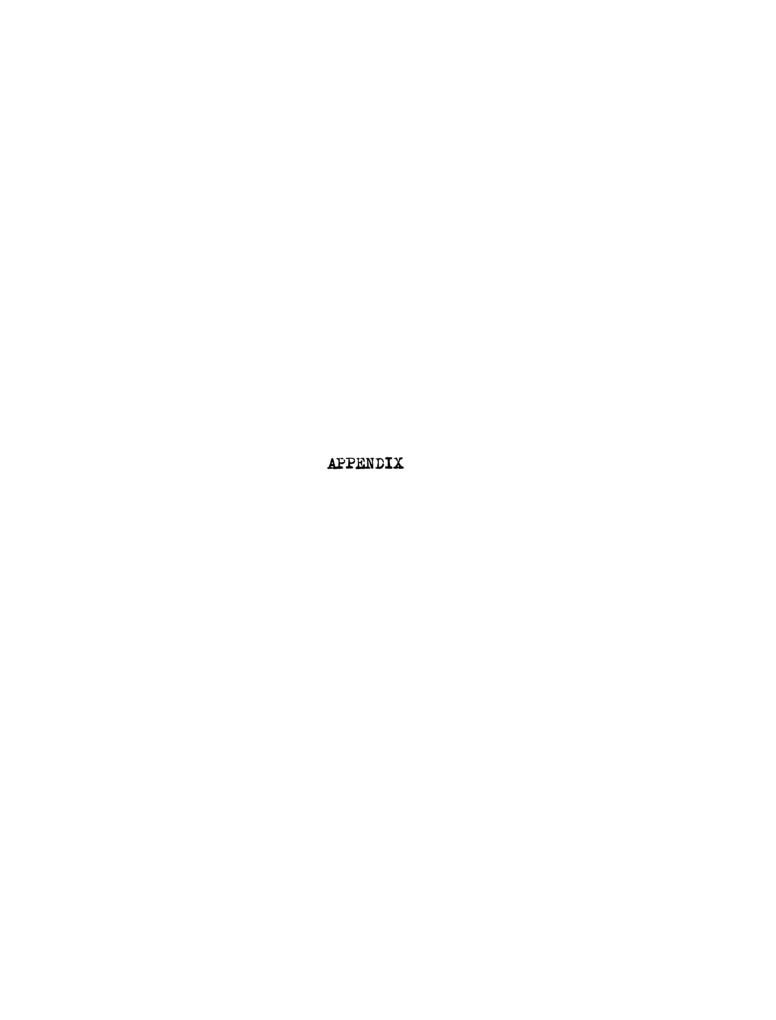
plements. In each group, approximately one-third of the vitamin supplements were known to be cod liver oil or cod liver oil concentrates. The other supplements were not identified, but in some cases these may have been multiple-vitamin compounds containing vitamin D.

SUMMARY

- 1. Dental examinations were made of elementary school children in two schools in the same geographical location. The
 children in Group I had fewer decayed, filled, or missing
 permanent teeth than the children in Group II. The difference in caries rate, however, was considered significant
 only for girls, age 10 to 12 years.
- 2. Heights and weights of "high-caries" children of Group I were generally greater than heights and weights of "low-caries" children. However among girls, 10 to 12 years of age, the heights and weights of "low-caries" children were greater than the heights and weights of "high-caries" children. No date on height and weight were obtained for Group II.
- in Group I and Group II, or between diets of "low-caries" and "high-caries" children, but it was observed that in all groups most of the diets failed to reach the National Research Council standards of adequacy. However girls, 10 to 12 years of age, in Group I had diets better in calcium, vitamin A, and ascorbic acid than the corresponding children in Group II. This same group also showed fewer children failing to meet the National Research Council standards

for calcium, vitamin A, ascorbic acid, thiamine and ribo-flavin.

- 4. An accelerated rate of growth seemed to be accompanied by an increase in dental caries, unless the diet was improved in proportion to rate of growth.
- 5. No correlations could be found between amounts of carbohydrate, sweets, or vitamin supplements ingested and incidence
 of dental caries. However, the data were inadequate to
 conclude that either sweets or vitamin D influence the progress of dental caries.



HEALTH RECORDS

Name of	Child		School		Date
Birth d	late	Age_	Sex_	Paren	t
				Addre	88
Heig	ght-Weight Re	cord	is	ease Kec	ord
Year	' Weight	'Height	When did c diseas		e the following
			German mee Mumps Chicken Po		Red measles
			Frequency	of colds	Infantile Parelysis Rheumatic
			Broken bon	e 8	fever
			Surgery		Scarlet fever_
					Small Fox Tuberculosis
					Meningitis Diarrhea Other

How often are dental examinations made of child?

Kemarks:-

DIET RECORD : INTERVIEW

Record of All Food That Was Eaten on One Day

Name	Da te	Da	У	
School				
Breakfast		Noon Me		
Description of food	Amount	Description of		Amoun
202022942011 02 2004		bederption of	1004	144044
	j			
			'	
}				
W. I.A		7		
Night Meal		Between		
Description of food	Amount	Description of	riooa	Amoun
· 1				
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!				

Diet Record : Interview (Cont'd)

If no	t eaten yesterday, when did you last have the following foods?
	Orange or grapefruit, or juice
	Tomato, or juice
	Egg
	Butter or substitute Brand
	Ch eese
	Milk to drink
	Leafy vegetables, spec.
	Meat, fish, chicken
	Meat substitute, spec.
Was a	ny food served yesterday which you did not eat?What
	was it? Why didn't you eat it?
Wh en	did you last have the following:
	Ice cream (cones, sundaes, sodas, etc.)
	Candy
	Chewing gum_
	Soft drinks (cokes, sode pop, etc., spec.)
	Coffee
	Tea

Remarks:

FOOD AND DIET HABITS

Name	Date	School	
Do you usually est ab			
Do you drink milk?		lasses per day	
What foods don't you	Like?		
What foods do you not	; eet?		
What foods do you lik	e especially?		
Do you take Cod Liver		f preparation and br	end
Amount daily			
Do you take other vit	amin preparations?		
Name of preparation a	nd brand	Amount daily	
Where did you eat lun	ch yesterday?		
What hour did you get	up this morning?_	Yeste	rdey Y_
What hour did you go	to bed lest night?		
How did you spend les			

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