COW'S STOMACH AIDS PROGRESS OF SCIENCE

'Window' Has Been Cut in Penn State College Animal, Which Gets No Vitamin B.

STATE COLLEGE, Pa., July 29 (AP).—Jessie, the famous Pennsylvania State College cow that has been robbed of her gastronomic privacy through a door to the largest of her several stomachs as a contribution to science and human welfare, was the centre of attraction for the group of vitamin and nutrition specialists attending the final session today of the Institute of Chemistry of the American Chemical Society.

A little incubator in Jessie's stomach has been found to give evidence of one of the most important vitamin and nutritional discoveries of the times. She was found to have ability in this incubator to manufacture in wholesale lots the highly valuable vitamin B.

Jessie has never been given any feed that contained vitamin B. It has been kept from her mother before her, and she has a calf of her own, the third generation to be deprived of this valuable material.

But Jessie's milk, as well as that of her mother, contained vitamin B, and Dr. H. I. Mechdel of the Penn State Dairy Department, had a window cut into Jessie's second stomach, or rumen. Samples of the stored and partly digested food were taken out, analyzed by Professor H. C. Knutsen of the college bacteriology department and found to be literally alive with vitamin B bacteria.

Professor R. Adams Butcher and Dr. Anna Honeywell of the college biochemistry department, fed some of Jessie's ration to one group of rats and some of the bacterial culture from Jessie's stomach to another group. The rats receiving the vitaminless feed withered away; those fed the samples from the cow's stomach grew large and fat. So far as known, the cow is the only animal that has ability to thrive on feed lacking in the necessary vitamin, a discovery made here little more than a year ago by Dr. Mechdel.

Jessie is as lively and contented as before she had a doorway cut into her stomach, showing no visible effects of lack of the material.