XLI. THE PHOSPHORUS NUCLEUS OF CASEINOGEN.

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IN an interesting paper by Rimington and Kay [1926] entitled "The liberation of phosphorus from caseinogen by enzymes and other agents," I noticed the following sentence:

"We could find no account in the literature of any serious attempt to isolate the organic phosphorus compound or compounds produced during tryptic hydrolysis of caseinogen."

I think it my duty to call the attention of the authors to the fact that as early as 1923 the Society of Chemical Industry in Basle patented a process of mine for preparing the phosphorus nucleus of caseinogen by means of a short tryptic digestion (2-3 days) [1923, 1925].

As Rimington and Kay will easily realise, if they study the publication alluded to, I was able to isolate from the tryptic digestion liquor of caseinogen, with the aid of its lead salt, a phosphorus compound containing 5.86 % P and 11.90 % N, i.e. 4 atoms P for 18 atoms N.

The compound obtained by Rimington and Kay contains only 3.8-4.00 % P.

Later on, I succeeded in preparing more degraded polypeptides and determined their constitution. According to these researches the phosphorus nucleus of caseinogen is composed of four serine-phosphoric acids.

More details concerning the properties and physiological meaning of these phosphopolypeptides are to be found in my other publications [1926, 1927].

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