

ZYMOMOLOGY

Drink Half-Per-Cent Beer, and Like It!

WHILE America welcomes back "3.2," and looks forward to stronger tipples soon, beer-loving Bavarians in Munich are sampling a new brew with only one-half of one per cent. of alcohol—and liking it!

The new drink is not like the "near-beer" of prohibition days in America, though its alcohol content is the same. Near-beer was made by boiling the alcohol out of real beer and then re-charging it with carbon dioxide. The new German "nothing-point-five" is the completed product of a natural fermentation, with no artificial manipulation. It has a grand "collar," it tastes good, and there isn't a katzenjammer in a tank-carload.

The beverage is not made with yeast, but with a bacterium species discovered by Prof. Paul Lindner of Berlin. The same organism was used in the ancient East to make a drink called "soma" which was supposed to be the nectar of the gods. It is also used by the modern Mexicans in the fermentation of a mild beverage made from the juice of a species of century plant.

Working under scientific sanitary conditions with pure cultures and controlled temperatures, several prominent breweries in various German cities and in Vienna have recently begun the brewing of this bacterial beer. It hasn't a kick, but nobody's kicking.

Science News Letter, October 14, 1933

GEOGRAPHY

Ancient Map is Really Only Half a Map

THE OLD MAP of the Atlantic Ocean and lands bordering it, pictured on the front cover of SCIENCE NEWS LETTER for October 7, is really only half a map, but fortunately it is the half that throws light on Columbus' voyages and the explorer's views of his discoveries.

A printer's oversight resulted in the printing of the map up side down in SCIENCE NEWS LETTER. Thus the handwritten inscription in the upper right corner should be in the lower left. The lands to the right represent parts of Africa and Spain while those in the upper left outline portions of America as they appeared to Columbus.

The map was originally a gift of the Turkish seaman and author, Piri Re'is,

to his Sultan, Selim the First, as the most authoritative and new representation of the then-known world. In the years that have passed since 1513, when the chart was drawn, the half dealing with Europe and Asia has been torn off, probably by a Turkish ruler most concerned with his own part of the world.

The Arabic inscription in the lower left corner explains that Piri Re'is drew the map copying the New World lands from charts that Columbus, himself, had made. They were probably captured by Re'is' uncle, the great naval hero, Gazi Kemal. Information was also furnished by a Spanish slave who said he had traveled with Columbus three times to the new territory.

The importance of the map to modern geographers is explained in last week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER.

Science News Letter, October 14, 1933

PHYSIOLOGY

Milk Seen as Constant Source of Vitamins

MILK, as produced under present market conditions, is a fairly constant source of all the vitamins except the rickets-preventing D and this can be added in a number of ways, Prof. H. C. Sherman of Columbia University told the American Public Health Association.

Man has been able to extend his learning period much longer than other animals chiefly because of his use of cow's milk for food, Prof. Sherman declared.

The body cannot produce vitamins by itself in the way that it can and does produce enzymes and hormones. Either the vitamin or its precursor must be furnished by the food or some other factor of the environment, such as ultraviolet

The Next Issue Of

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Will Be The

FALL BOOK NUMBER

[October 21, 1933]

It will contain, in addition to the weekly summary of current science:

- Classified lists of new science books giving title, author, publisher and price.
- Reviews of selected new books.
- Choice quotations from pages fresh with printer's ink.

Make sure your subscription is paid up well in advance.
Use the convenience coupon on the opposite page.