

been studying typewriters hooked up to smoked drums, so that the speed of the typist in hitting the keys and the interval between hitting each two keys could be recorded permanently on smoked paper.

Statistical tables resulting from this work show that there is ordinarily a much shorter time interval between striking successive letters when they are on opposite sides of the keyboard, and consequently are hit with alternate hands. The two hands vary in this respect, however. The French investigators have found that the fingers of the right hand are more agile than those of the left, in the average operator. This means that whenever possible a letter hit by the left hand should alternate with one hit by the right.

French methods of typing are being developed as a result of the researches.

"The best methods are not to be obtained by imposing the same method on all typists," the French psychologist declares. "Each typist adapts a method to his own needs according to his muscular peculiarities."

The usual method of typing taught, in which all ten fingers are used, rests upon an erroneous comparison of the finger movements of the typist with those of the pianist, he says.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF IODINE THOUGHT UNSAFE

Is the consumption of iodized salt safe for the general public? According to such authority as Dr. Victor C. Vaughan of the National Research Council and Dr. C. L. Hartsock of the Medical Division of the Cleveland Clinic, it is not.

Dr. Hartsock has reported to the American Medical Association that the continuous administration of iodine over a long period of time should never be prescribed for adults. There are many different sorts of thyroid disturbances, according to Dr. Hartsock, and even small amounts of iodine are likely to set up irritation in certain types that are exceedingly dangerous.

"Iodine administered in small quantities, periodically to children", he says "under the age of puberty is a very efficient preventive of simple goiter. Community administration of iodine disregards physiologic facts regarding the effect of iodine on the thyroid gland. The use of iodized salt should be discontinued or limited absolutely to periodic table use by children under the age of puberty."

Dr. Vaughan maintains that the flood of iodized salt on the market is already doing harm.

"It should be understood," he says, "that there are different kinds of goiter and all kinds are not prevented, or, being present, are not benefitted by medication with iodine. The wholesale use of medicine of any kind or chemicals of any kind by the people without medical supervision is fraught with danger."
