

## Reading Character—*Cont'd*

The same researchers have discovered that in most schizophrenia patients there is also a distinctive body build. This is usually the exact opposite of the macrosplanchnic.

Long limbs with a relatively small trunk volume is their characteristic. They are long-legged, thin people in general, although a fat person may have such long legs and arms that they throw him into this group. They are more intelligent as a rule than macrosplanchnics, and are more easily fatigued and more sensitive to pain.

This is the microsplanchnic build, although it sports many names which means much the same constitution, such as, dolichomorphic, asthenic, schizoid, hypovegetative, hypoplastic, and dolichoskelic.

It is more characteristic of men than of women. A man with a height-weight index above 0.53 is microsplanchnic, while a woman with an index above 0.58 has this constitution in most cases.

Dr. Draper has found that this is the gastric ulcer type, most patients with this ailment coming from this constitutional make-up. They are also especially prone to tuberculosis, as well as having their distinctive mental make-up in most cases.

The tape measure and bathroom scales are a fair index of type of build, but are not completely trustworthy. A series of twelve measurements made with delicate instruments is essential to get an accurate morphological index, but the height-weight index approximates this closely in many cases.

From childhood to old age we all pass through a transition in these constitutional features. In emotionally pleasurable and energetic childhood we were more macrosplanchnic than we are at maturity, and as old age draws over us we become more inclined toward the microsplanchnic and live more in the realm of fancy as well as having more trouble with what we should eat.

As we deviate somewhat from the average between these extreme types in build so are we likely to have somewhat distinctive mental traits, without being in any sense abnormal in either build or mental makeup.

Work which has been under way for three years in the Colgate Psychological Laboratory, under the successive leadership of Robert C. Little, Philip Payne, and now J. C. Anderson, indicates definitely that the college man who (*Turn to next page*)

## South Africa Dreads Corn Borer

*Entomology*

The European corn borer, which has become a scourge in America, is being guarded against in the Union of South Africa with all the vigilance that would be used to stop the coming of the Black Plague or an invading army. It has not yet succeeded in gaining a foothold in South Africa, and government scientists do not propose that it shall do so.

One bad scare occurred in Johannesburg something over a year ago, and entomologists are still watching the neighborhood of the threatened outbreak. In South Africa, as everywhere else, housewives need brooms, and broom factories exist to supply the demand. Broom corn has to be imported from Europe and South America, because the locally raised crop is not sufficient. Inspections of baled European broom corn have shown the presence of the borers in the stalks, just as they were in the stalks of European broom corn imported into Canada and the United States some years ago, from which the present plague there got its start.

In the yard of a Johannesburg broom factory a few chance stalks of broom corn sprang up from stray seeds, and these were found to be infested with young borers. They

were promptly obliterated, and every kitchen garden for blocks around was inspected inchwise by frantic entomologists. So far as known at present, not a single borer escaped the search, but the watch will have to be kept up for several years to make sure the clean-up was complete.

In the meantime, the Union has passed stringent inspection regulations for imported broom corn. None may be brought in unless it has been freed of all stalks large enough to harbor a borer. In the factories the bales are stored in mothproof rooms kept rigidly under lock and key, and the few workmen who have access to them are put through the same elaborate ritual on leaving as employes of a mint.

South Africa already has one pest in its cornfields, which it considers more than sufficient. This is the stalk borer, a creature related to the European corn borer and having much the same habits. Recommendations to the South African farmer for its control are reminiscent of those now being published in the American corn belt for the control of the European corn borer.

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## Studies How Women Walk

*Anatomy*

More than half of the women of the present day walk with their feet toeing straight ahead, Indian fashion. About 41 per cent. toe out after the old dancing school pattern. Only about 5 per cent. of the women you see on the streets are pigeon-toed.

These are the conclusions of Dr. John W. Crist, of Michigan State College. Dr. Crist gathered his statistics by standing on busy street corners during his spare time, and unobtrusively recording the walking habits of some 11,000 women in various cities of the United States.

Reporting his investigations in the forthcoming issue of the *Journal of Heredity*, Dr. Crist states that the ancestors of the human species walked on all fours, and their feet must have curved inward to help in grasping trees, as the apes' feet curl. Babies are inclined to turn the soles of the feet toward each other, and many babies can even bring the soles of the feet together. They soon lose this pigeon-toed tendency, however, and, so far as women are con-

cerned, the feet even swing past the straight position and tend to turn out in many cases. For some of his figuring, Dr. Crist found it necessary to estimate the ages of feminine pedestrians, making due allowance for facial camouflage. Among the women that he set down in the "over 40" list, about three-fourths toed out. But this great increase in toeing out among older women is not due to age, he later concluded. Weight is the more important factor. As heaviness increases with age, the feet respond by turning outward.

Eighty per cent. of the heavily built women over 40 toed out. But only 40 per cent. of the light weight women over 40 turned out their toes fan fashion.

Whether this position of the feet is more efficient in carrying and balancing the heavy and unequally distributed load of a heavy woman might be investigated by a physicist, Dr. Crist suggests.

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