

● RADIO

June 1, 4:15 p. m., E.S.T.
SEA SERPENTS AGAIN—Dr. Paul Bartsch
of the U. S. National Museum.

June 8, 4:15 p. m., E.S.T.
SCIENCE DIGS A MINE—Charles F. Jack-
son of the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

In the Science Service series of radio dis-
cussions led by Watson Davis, Director,
over the Columbia Broadcasting System.

and arrived on the pathway from the ear. The thinking part of the brain received it as an ear stimulus and the patient heard voices that did not exist.

When the blood sugar is lowered by insulin, the false new pathways or short circuits are isolated, Dr. Sakel believes. This banishes the hallucinations.

Because the false pathways are the most recently formed ones, they are most easily isolated. When the false pathways have been in existence for a long time, as in mental cases of long standing, it may not be possible to isolate them. This probably explains why the insulin treatment is more effective in acute, newly-developed cases of schizophrenia than chronic ones and in young rather than old patients.

Science News Letter, May 29, 1937

PHYSICS

Attempt to Split Neutron A Failure at Cavendish

THE neutron has not yet been dis-
integrated. This subatomic particle,
one of those unknown until recent years,
can not be split into electron and pro-
ton, older building blocks of the uni-
verse.

A scientific trio from famous Cam-
bridge's famous Cavendish Laboratory,
consisting of C. W. Gilbert, C. L. Smith,
J. H. Fremlin, attempted to confirm a
report from Japan that the neutron
could be broken up. They bombarded it
vigorously with the hearts or cores of
heavy hydrogen atoms, called deuterons.
But the neutron refused to split. (*Nature*,
May 8).

Science News Letter, May 29, 1937

SEASICKNESS

Why Bring That Up?

By Dr. Joseph Franklin Montague

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SEASICKNESS



INSPECT NEW HEALTH CENTER SITE

Surgeon General Thomas Parran and other officials of the U. S. Public Health Service showed Sir Henry Dale, Nobel Prize Winner and director of the British National Institute for Medical Research, the spot near Bethesda, Md., where ground has been broken for the new U. S. National Institute of Research. The plans call for four buildings to house the federal health service's research activities in the fight to protect America from disease. When Sir Henry saw the site and plans he expressed unbounded admiration, tinged with envy, although his own institute is one of the world's outstanding medical research centers. "I wish we had the same thing," he said. Left to right: Prof. Carl Voegtlin, U. S. National Institute of Health; Dr. R. L. Thompson, director, U. S. National Institute of Health; Sir Henry Dale; Surgeon General Parran; Dr. R. E. Dyer, assistant director, U. S. National Institute of Health.

PHYSIOLOGY

British Scientist Describes Chemical Emissary to Muscles

MILLIONS of charges of a chemi-
cal, acetylcholine, spurt from nerve
endings every time a thought commands
a muscle to move, Sir Henry Dale, di-
rector of the British National Institute
for Medical Research, explained in his
first interview in the United States since
sharing the Nobel Prize award for this
discovery.

Research leading to the discovery was
described by Sir Henry before medical
audiences in Washington, D. C., Balti-
more, and New York.

"When I talk to you," Sir Henry said,
"millions of charges of acetylcholine are
released to move my tongue and lips."

This same chemical is what causes
sweat to stand out on a man's face
when he has had a bad fright or other
shock, Sir Henry explained. It was for-
merly thought that this effect was caused

by adrenalin, product of the adrenal
glands.

With the exception of the sweat
glands, acetylcholine is concerned only
with the nerves that control voluntary
muscles. It is probably formed at the
endings of these nerves. Only an infi-
nitesimal amount is released at each dis-
charge.

Acetylcholine was known to scientists
at least 50 years before its important
role in the body was discovered. The re-
search leading to this discovery was done
partly by Sir Henry and partly by Prof.
Otto Loewi at Graz, Austria, who
shared with Sir Henry the Nobel Prize
in medicine and physiology for 1936.

Practical application of the discovery
is already being made in the case of a
serious disease of muscle weakness, my-
asthenia gravis. The defect in this condi-