

PSYCHOLOGY

Brain Waves for Safety

► USE of brain wave recordings to prevent disaster in industry at both employee and management levels is urged in a report to the American Medical Association.

Reporting in the ARCHIVES OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE AND OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE, Drs. Joseph L. Fetterman and Victor M. Victoroff, psychiatrists-neurologists at the Fetterman Clinic, Cleveland, state:

"It would be well if it were possible to determine the potential lapses in memory, judgment and consciousness which might endanger the lives and property of others."

Railroad engineers, airplane pilots, control tower operators, cab, truck and bus drivers, workers in deep sea diving, deep mining, caisson work and tunnel building are among the examples cited.

Whether lack of sleep will so seriously harm brain functioning in valued personnel as to risk accident and reduce output may be determined with the aid of brain wave records.

Persons who cannot safely work overtime might be screened by this method.

Brain wave records give a more useful test than electrocardiograms, or heart wave

records, of the directors of large businesses and industry, the Cleveland physicians state. This is because it might pick up signs of unnoticed damage to the brain, "little strokes" that might not otherwise be recognized though they could impair mental efficiency.

Science News Letter, September 1, 1951

HORTICULTURE

New Hybrid Sweet Corn Getting Final Test

► NEW HYBRID sweet corn is being given its final test—an OK from the housewife this summer in New Jersey. If it passes, large-scale production of the variety, known as N. J. 101, is expected.

Consumer reaction to the hybrid, developed by Dr. Robert Snell of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station in New Brunswick is being weighed in several New Jersey stores.

How fast it moves off the display bins is being judged. Housewives are being given cards which they are being asked to fill out after they have served the corn to their families, noting their reactions.

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Intelligence Raised When Half of Brain Removed

► HALF A brain is better than one whole brain, O. L. Zangwill, of the Institute of Experimental Psychology in London has found.

Children who had half of each of their brains removed at the National Hospital in London in an attempt to cure them of epilepsy and other mental disorders astounded the doctors with their post-operation intelligence level.

It had been thought that removal of half a brain caused a lowering of intelligence, instead of which the children at the National Hospital were, if anything, more intelligent after the operation than they were before.

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Books of the Week

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THE ADOLESCENT PERIOD: A GRAPHIC ATLAS—Frank K. Shuttleworth—*Child Development Publications*, illus., paper, \$3.00. 453 charts concerning adolescents including physical growth, intelligence, behavior maladjustments, occupation adjustments, sex adjustments, etc.

COLOR ATLAS OF MORPHOLOGIC HEMATOLOGY WITH A GUIDE TO CLINICAL INTERPRETATION—Geneva A. Daland—*Harvard University Press*, 74 p., illus., \$5.00. A reference guide for distinguishing the anemias, the leukemias, infectious mononucleosis and physiologic changes in the peripheral blood.

THE CRISIS IN HUMAN AFFAIRS—J. G. Bennett—*Hermitage House*, 239 p., \$2.75. Philosophical comments by a British scientist.

INSECT CONTROL BY CHEMICALS—A. W. A. Brown—*Wiley*, 817 p., illus., \$12.50. For chemists and those interested in large scale use of insecticides.

LIFE IN A MEXICAN VILLAGE: Tepoztlan Re-studied—Oscar Lewis—*University of Illinois Press*, 512 p., illus., \$7.50. An anthropological re-survey of this Mexican village reveals that a sewing machine-radio-cola-drink culture now competes with superstition and primitive beliefs. Excellent drawings by Alberto Beltran.

MATERIALS AND METHODS IN THE STUDY OF PROTOZOA—Harold Kirby—*University of California Press*, 72 p., paper, \$2.50. A laboratory manual to aid in the securing, maintaining and making preparations of protozoa for observation.

POSITIVISM: A Study in Human Understanding—Richard von Mises—*Harvard University Press*, 404 p., \$6.00. Explains how the scientist's striving for clarity, sincerity, and objectivity should be carried over to all of man's intellectual endeavors. Translated from German.

PRINCIPLES OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING—William H. Timbie and Vannevar Bush—*Wiley*, 4th ed., 626 p., illus., \$6.50. The principles basic to modern electrical engineering, electronics and radar.

RADIOLOGY OF THE TEETH AND JAWS: Including Dental Radiography for Students and Practitioners of Dental Surgery and Radiology—Frank L. Ingram—*Williams and Wilkins*, 160 p., illus., \$3.50. X-ray photographs and text illustrating the processes of pathology in tooth and bone.

SOUTHEAST ASIA—E. H. G. Dobby—*Wiley*, 415 p., illus., \$5.00. On the physical and human geography of Malaya, Burma, Indonesia, Indochina, Siam, and the Philippines, and posing some of their present problems.

STEEL TRAILS TO SANTA FE—L. L. Waters—*University of Kansas Press*, 500 p., illus., \$4.00. A history of the Santa Fe Railroad, its growth and impact on the peoples of the Southwest.

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA, 1950-1951—*National Research Council of Canada*, 44 p., paper, free upon request to Canadian Scientific Office, 1800 K Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

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