

three-dimensional only if the two eyes work well together," Dr. Franklin M. Foote of the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, New York, told SCIENCE SERVICE.

"If there is significant heterophoria (tendency to squint or for one eye to turn out or in) or if there is some loss of vision in one eye, there may be no three-dimensional effect. Therefore this kind of movie will help in the detection of these kinds of unsuspected eye conditions.

"Persons who get no three-dimension effect should obtain a thorough professional eye examination," he advised.

This probably does not apply to the large screen three-dimensional movies like "Cine-rama" because their effect is based on a person's previous experience and the life-like appearance of the image.

Dr. Foote does not think that any of these movies will harm the eyes, though as with other visual tasks, fatigue will occur after long viewing.

Hollywood cameramen, directors and film technicians have been applauded for their work in developing three-dimension movies because of the aid these will be in detecting unsuspected eye troubles. This applause came from R. A. Sherman of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Co., Rochester, N. Y., who spoke at the meeting of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers.

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#### PSYCHOLOGY

## Parents Need Assurance

► MANY PARENTS these days are confused and "uneasily self-conscious" about bringing up their children. They need some reassurance from the child psychiatrists, psychologists and educators who have upset them, says Dr. Leo Kanner, director of the children's psychiatric service at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore.

Parents have been taught over the past couple of generations that the "Mother knows best" and "Spare the rod and spoil the child" attitude in child rearing may be harmful to the child. They have got away from letting the clock and the scales and schedules rule them and their babies. But many of them are now floundering, waiting for some new pronouncement or set of rules for raising children. Dr. Kanner says there has been produced a generation of parents who wail: "It is all our fault but what can we do?"

Mother may not "know best" just because she is mother, but she and father, too, must be helped to feel more self-reliant and self-confident about handling their children, Dr. Kanner points out. It should help them to read and think about and remember the following from Dr. Kanner's report to the U. S. Children's Bureau publication, "The Child":

"We have learned the simple truth that any child has a good chance for satisfactory mental health, regardless of physical

#### METEOROLOGY

## Better Visibility Forecasts

► MORE AND safer bad-weather landings at crowded airports are foreseen from studies being made at Washington National Airport reported to the American Meteorological Society meeting in Washington.

Better forecasts for up to about ten minutes when visibility is bad are now being made on a trial basis using two new instruments, a ceilometer and a transmissometer, Wayne F. Staats of the U. S. Weather Bureau told the meteorologists.

The bottom of a cloud ceiling is not smooth and flat, but rough and jagged, sometimes changing as much as 300 feet in 24 seconds. Goal of the year-long studies, started last January and sponsored by the Air Navigation Development Board, is to tell the pilot just where and when he will be able to break through the overcast to see the airport and landing runway.

The ceilometer was described to the meteorologists by its inventor, Ruben H. Guenther of the Weather Bureau. Developed jointly with L. W. Foskett, also of the Weather Bureau, the ceilometer is a "light-radar." It sends a pulsed beam of light upward, then catches the reflections from the bottom of the cloud. Heights of

the cloud base are indicated every 24 seconds on a cathode ray tube.

A remote television pickup camera was also tried in an effort to lick the problem of extreme changes in cloud base height, Louis P. Harrison of the Weather Bureau reported. Calibration difficulties must be solved before TV can be used successfully for determining airport visibility during bad weather periods.

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condition and I.Q. and other circumstances, if he can from the beginning of life feel that those closest to him like him, want him, and accept him as he is.

"We have also learned that it is not only severe cerebral and endocrinologic disorders that can work havoc with the mental health and adjustment of human beings; personality and behavior disorders can also result from the attitudes of parents who are markedly rejecting, disapproving, exploiting, perfectionistic, overprotective, or overpossessive."

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#### AGRICULTURE

## DDT Accumulations Could Harm Plants

► ACCUMULATION OF DDT in farm soils may retard plant growth, warns Dr. Joseph M. Ginsburg, entomologist with the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick.

In fields of sandy soil where an average of 50 pounds of DDT per acre had been sprayed over five years time, Dr. Ginsburg found from six to 12 pounds of DDT per acre in the top one foot of soil. Concentrations of 12 pounds of DDT per acre could be near the danger point for many plants.

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