

PSYCHOLOGY

Rapid Reading Courses May Be Waste of Time

➤ TEACHING COLLEGE STUDENTS to read more rapidly may be a waste of time, Dr. Mazie Earle Wagner of the State University of New York College for Teachers, Buffalo, N. Y., told the American Psychological Association meeting in Chicago.

Although reading speed is somewhat related to college success, Dr. Wagner found, the relationship is small.

Reading comprehension and vocabulary have somewhat more of a relationship to success than has reading speed, but more important in connection with college success than any of these is the high-school average English scores, and the score on a psychological test called "draw-a-person."

Science News Letter, September 8, 1956

MEDICINE

Soviets Find Chemicals Causing Leukemia

➤ CHEMICALS that cause cancer and leukemia are produced in the bone marrow and other tissues of leukemia patients, M. O. Raushenbach of Moscow reported to the International Society of Hematology meeting in Boston.

The cancer- and leukemia-inducing substances are presumed to be the products of some disturbance in body chemistry. These disturbances cause an overproduction of indol derivatives such as serotonin.

Chromatographic studies of benzol tissue extracts from leukemia patients and mice with leukemia and from the blood of leukemia patients "very often" showed the presence of oxy-5-indolacetic acid.

Eighty-four extracts of different tissues and urine from patients with various forms of acute and chronic leukemia were injected into 324 mice. More than half the mice, 54%, developed different kinds of leukemia, local and remote tumors, or both leukemia and tumor. The bone marrow extracts from patients with acute leukemia were "extremely active," much more so than any known synthetic cancer-causing chemical.

Science News Letter, September 8, 1956

Questions

ASTRONOMY—What new evidence supports the theory Pluto was not formed as a planet? p. 150.

BIOLOGY—What substance can be used to make dwarf corn grow normally? p. 152.

HEMATOLOGY—How can iron deficiency in babies now be remedied? p. 153.

PSYCHOLOGY—What is the effect of alcohol on a person's perception of vertical? p. 148.

PUBLIC HEALTH—How is equine encephalomyelitis spread? p. 151.

RADIO ASTRONOMY—How many planets are now known to broadcast radio waves? p. 150.

TECHNOLOGY—When was the first synthetic dye discovered? p. 154.

Photographs: Cover and p. 147, Fremont Davis; p. 149, British Columbia Government; p. 151, Philco Corporation; pp. 154 and 155, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.; p. 160, Laramie Chemical Corporation.

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For the same principles learned from magic apply in our workaday world. The penalties for not seeing the "gimmick" in a magic trick are slight—being laughed at, perhaps—and it's all good fun. But in the outside world the penalties for not seeing the "gimmick" in a situation or in a proposition can be tragically heavy—and, contrariwise, the rewards for understanding what "gives" can be tremendous.

TEACH YOURSELF MAGIC

By J. Elsdon Tuffs

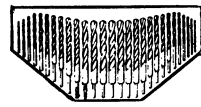
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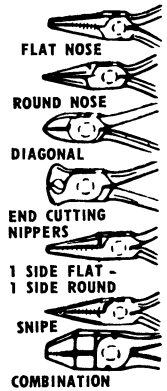


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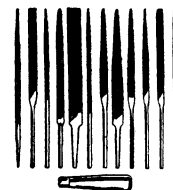
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