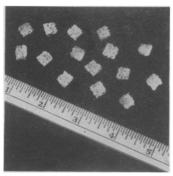


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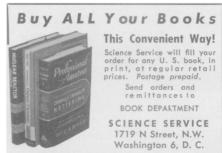
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VIROLOGY—Approximately how big is the foot-and-mouth disease virus? p. 182.

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SOCIOLOGY

Most People Don't Panic When Disaster Strikes

➤ IF DISASTER should strike you today, the chances are that you would not panic or succumb to shock. You would go ahead and do whatever was expected of you due to your place in the community.

This reassuring conclusion was reported to the American Sociological Society meeting, Washington, D. C., by Drs. Sigmund Nosow and William H. Form of Michigan State University. It was based on a study of 116 victims of the Flint-Beecher tornado.

Only one-fifth of the victims were found to be suffering from what might be classified as panic or shock. These were persons hit hardest by the calamity. They were alone or isolated from their families. Or they had injured family, friends or neigh-

But even in these persons the symptoms were temporary and tended to disappear when demands were made on the victims to help with rescue work.

The large majority of victims of the disaster were not incapacitated by the shock, but were able to pitch in and do what was necessary and what was expected of them.

Science News Letter, September 21, 1957

Do You Know?

A human being has *flown* nearly four times as fast as a .45 pistol bullet, about 2,260 miles per hour.

A bright *meteor* seen on a dark night may be produced by a particle having a mass of a few miligrams, about the size of a grain of sand.

A device using a reed made of tantalum metal can restore *speech* to persons who have had their "voice box" or larynx removed.

For the first time in many years, our forests are growing more wood than we are using.