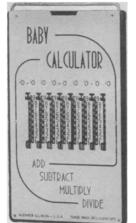
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PHYSIOLOGY

# **Pigeons' Breathing Rate Increases in Daylight**

> PIGEONS breathe faster and harder in daytime than nighttime, Dr. Stanley Z. Kramer of the department of physiology at the University of Pennsylvania told the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology meeting in Philadelphia.

When pigeons are exposed to light after having been kept in the dark, there is a rapid increase in the rate of breathing and in the amount of oxygen consumed. These increases were maintained as long as the light was on, even though the pigeons were inactive.

When the light was turned off, the increases were abruptly reversed.

Dr. Kramer also found that when the brightness of the light was increased, the pigeons' breathing rate increased proportionately. If the cerebral hemispheres are removed, however, the birds no longer respond to the light, giving rise to the suggestion that at least part of the control of this reaction is located in that part of the brain.

Science News Letter, April 26, 1958

# Do You Know?

Vegetables need about eight hours of full sunlight a day to produce well.

Most of the water that enters plants from the soil is transpired into the atmosphere.

More than one-fifth of those who drop out of college permanently were in the top 20% of their high school graduating class.

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