

PHYSIOLOGY

How Much Is Enough Related to Pain Intensity

► HOW MUCH pain you can take may be indicated by your ability to judge the size of a wooden block after you have held a large block in your hand for some time.

There appears to be a definite relationship between the two, three Boston researchers report.

"Satiability," the fact that after prolonged stimulation with a strong stimulus (large block), the size of another stimulus (second block) will appear smaller, may prove to be the body's mechanism for tolerating pain. Drs. Asenath Petrie, Walter Collins and Philip Solomon of the Harvard Medical School, Boston City Hospital and the Boston Sanatorium, respectively, described tests which support this theory in *Science* (Dec. 5).

Tests with some 28 adult males indicate that the individual who tolerates pain best is also the one most susceptible to satiation. An intermittent bigger wave of pain causes subsequent pain to be perceived as less intense, the scientists say.

In addition, they report, "Our findings provide some support for the hypothesis that he who tolerates sensory deprivation least is most susceptible to satiation."

Pain-tolerance was measured with an instrument that concentrates radiant heat on the skin. Tolerance of sensory deprivation was measured by nine volunteers who remained in a tank-type respirator.

Science News Letter, December 27, 1958

● RADIO

Saturday, January 3, 1959, 1:35-1:50 P.M. EST "Adventures in Science" with Watson Davis, director of Science Service, over the CBS Radio network. Check your local CBS station.

Dr. Fred Singer, professor of physics, University of Maryland, College Park, Md., will discuss "Radiation Menace in Space."

AERONAUTICS

New York to Miami Run Opens Domestic Jet Age

► THE FIRST domestic jet passenger service began on Dec. 10 when a four-engined Boeing 707 loaded to its capacity of 109 passengers and took off for Miami.

National Airlines said New York to Miami flight runs should take two hours and 15 minutes, with the northward flight being a bit shorter sometimes because of jet-stream assistance.

National borrowed from Pan American enough 707's to establish two flights a day each way in December. Three flights a day are scheduled for January. Planes will climb to about 32,000 feet for the trip, travel at 600 miles an hour, and carry 44 "super deluxe" seats at a \$10 surcharge. Fares otherwise remain the same.

The 707's are replacing National's piston-engined DC-7's and Super Constellations, which made the run in three hours 50 minutes. Its own jets—Douglas DC-8's now on order—are expected to be delivered in January, 1960.

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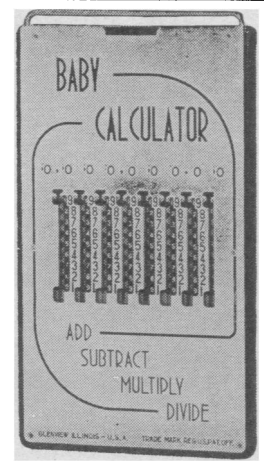
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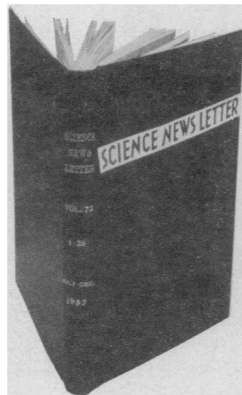
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