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PSYCHOLOGY

Study Conditioned Reflex

➤ RUSSIANS AND AMERICANS will get together at Town Hall in New York this month in a sort of psychological "summit conference" to report and discuss research inspired by the Russian "patron saint" of neurology and psychology, Ivan Pavlov.

This famous Russian physiologist was the discoverer of the conditioned reflex. Russian psychologists are now required by the Government to confine their research to that based on the classic work of Pavlov, but their American colleagues say that the Russians can do all sorts of research and label it "conditioned reflexes." American psychologists also hold Pavlov in the highest esteem.

Seven top Russian scientists, six of them members of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Medical Sciences, are expected to report their latest research at this meeting, which will be held Oct. 13-15 under the joint auspices of the New York Academy of Sciences and the U.S.S.R. Academy of Medical Sciences.

All seven of the Russians have promised to be present although one qualified his promise with "if the weather is favorable."

Naturally, research reported by the Russian scientists will be related in one way or another to conditioned reflexes. Dr. S. A. Sarkisov will present current data on the structure and function of the human brain. Dr. P. K. Anokhin will talk about the brainwave study of the interrelations of different parts of the brain in conditioned reflexes.

Dr. P. S. Kupalov will report on normal and pathological nervous processes in the higher divisions of the brain. Dr. V. V. Zakusov will discuss the effects of drugs on conditioned and unconditioned reflexes. The effect of irradiation on brainwaves during the formation of reflexes will be the topic of Dr. V. G. Rusinov.

Dr. A. V. Snezhnevsky will discuss the treatment of mental patients with drugs that act on the mind. And Dr. E. A. Asratyan, who is a member of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, will report on the initiation and localization of cortical in-

PHOTOGRAPHY

Picture of Human Fetus Gets Double Award

See Front Cover

➤ THE PHOTOGRAPH of a normal human fetus, seen on the cover of this week's Science News Letter, has received a double award at Salt Lake City, Utah, as part of the series presented annually for excellence in scientific photography by the Biological Photographic Association, founded at Yale University in 1931.

The picture received first prize in the category of monochrome prints, specimen photography, and also the Medical Education Award co-sponsored by Postgraduate Medicine. The photographer was James H. Peacock, Toronto, Canada.

• Science News Letter, 78:228 October 8, 1960

hibition in elements of the condtioned reflex arc.

American scientists contributing to the meeting will not confine their reports to research on conditioned reflexes, but, like the Russians, will report recent research. Dr. Horace W. Magoun of the University of California Medical Center, Los Angeles, will discuss recent contributions to the electrophysiology of learning. Dr. Nathan S. Kline of Rockland State Hospital, Orangeburg, N. Y., will speak on the pharmacology of learning.

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