

150 SOLITAIRE GAMES

By Douglas Brown

Everyone knows how to play Canfield, the basic solitaire game of seven vertical rows, but what about such entertaining versions as *Deadly Deuces*, *Floradora*, *Marriages*, *Twilight Zone* or *San Juan Hill*?

Douglas Brown has collected for this book 150 solitaire games, ranging in concept from simple to fiendishly difficult. Describing the most popular solitaire versions as well as the unusual and obscure, he includes games for children, games with a mathematical twist, puzzlers, ESP tests and games using one, two or even three decks.

Barnes & Noble, 1985, 144 pages, 8" x 5 1/4", paperback, \$4.95



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Letters continued from p. 115

treatment process of this sizable population.

*Robert Boyce
Mental health technologist
Willingboro, N.J.*

Right day, wrong century

Stanley Kubrick named his famous movie "2001, A Space Odyssey" for a very good reason: He wanted it to begin in the *next* century and he knew that the first century ran from A.D. 1 to the year 100, the second from 101 to 200, and the 21st from 2001 to 2100. This is because there was no year zero.

Therefore, your writer of "Rickover dead at 86" (SN:7/12/86,p.22) was incorrect in stating that Adm. Rickover "was born . . . on the 27th day of this century," since he was born on January 27, 1900, not 1901.

A lot of misinformed people are going to get drunk on the night of Dec. 31, 1999, thinking they are celebrating a new century and a new millennium. I don't suppose there's much hope you and other "esoteric" publications can make them understand their error, but please, don't perpetuate the error yourselves!

*Bill White
Miami, Fla.*

Autism and autoimmunity

Immunological abnormalities in autistic patients ("Immunology of autism," SN:7/26/86, p.58) were reported several years ago by Abraham Weizman et al. They demonstrated that many autistic children have an immune response to myelin basic protein, a component of the myelin sheath that covers many nerves. Myelin basic protein contains a serotonin (and LSD) binding site. Because serotonin lev-

els are abnormally high in many autistic children, some of whom respond extremely well to the serotonin-lowering drug fenfluramine, it has been suggested that the abnormal serotonin levels are directly related to the autoimmune response to myelin basic protein. Serotonin, in turn, has a definite modulatory effect upon the stress peptide, ACTH, which in turn regulates corticosteroid production, which modifies immune responses.

Thus, Robert Moulias's suggestions that neurotransmitter disturbances in autism affect the immune system, and that autoimmunity may be a cause of autism, are probably both correct. Could immunosuppressants therefore alleviate some or all of the symptoms of autism?

*Robert S. Root-Bernstein
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