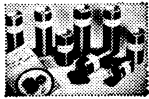


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LETTERS

to the editor

Testing creativity

Sir:

"Testing for the Spark" (SN: 5/18, p. 479) might inflame those who fear logic, but as one whose great delight is in reading articles that seek to explode the mythology of I.Q. tests as an accurate measure of anything but the ability to take I.Q. tests, I say let's have more of the same. Let's hear about the latest results of the work presently being done by scientists and doctors here in the U.S. who have found a definite correlation between I.Q. level and brain-reaction time as recorded on an electroencephalogram . . . and other research efforts being undertaken by members of MENSA and MM (societies whose requirements for membership are an I.Q. in the top 2 percent and top 1/10 percent respectively).

As a member of both organizations who just happens to combine high intelligence and exceptional creativity (as well as a good measure of undesirable conceit about the fact), I can assure you that, judging from my acquaintances in these groups, there is very definitely little, if any, correlation between intelligence and creativity. Moreover, before I could admit to the validity of such a theory, I would prefer to admit the possibility of some sort of relationship between intelligence, creativity and the position of the stars at time of birth.

Anne E. Carr (M/MM)
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

As much as I respect Dr. McKinnon I wish you had also interviewed my husband, E. Paul Torrance, developer of the Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking, for your article, "Testing for the Spark" (SN: 5/18, p. 479).

We certainly endorse most of what you say, but the work Dr. Holland did

was by a check list, and I think you should see what is identified with the Torrance Tests.

Mrs. E. Paul Torrance
Athens, Ga.

Too tough to read?

Sir:

Your new treatment of scientific news appears to be directed much more to the highly-specialized scientific Ph.D.'s than to the great mass of readers who cannot now comprehend your overly pedantic explanations of current science developments. No one is qualified to understand your reports in all of the various fields of science that you cover.

You consistently write over the heads of your readers even though they be trained in certain scientific and engineering disciplines. Surely your circulation must attest my complaint.

Benjamin F. Miessner
Miessner Inventions, Inc.
Miami Shores, Fla.

(We believe we are writing for a sophisticated lay audience, as well as for an audience of scientists, engineers and physicians. We try to give them an interdisciplinary overview of the fields of science and its applications, and general news where it impinges upon science or science on it. We would welcome comments on our intent, and Mr. Miessner's reaction to it. Ed.)

Understanding psychoanalysts

Sir:

I read your article on psychoanalysis (SN: 5/25, p. 495). You treated my remarks with accuracy and fairness—indeed, with some sympathy for the topic.

Martin A. Berezin, M.D.
West Newton, Mass.

SCIENCE NEWS

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Subscription rate: 1 yr., \$6.50; 2 yrs., \$11.50; 3 yrs., \$16.50. Special trial offer for new subscribers only: 39 weeks, \$3.43. Single copy, 25 cents. No charge for foreign postage. Change of address: Three weeks' notice is required. Please state exactly how magazine is addressed. Include zip code.

Printed in U.S.A. Second class postage paid at Washington, D. C. Established as Science News Letter® in mimeograph form March 13, 1922. Title registered as trademark U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices. Indexed in Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature, Abridged Guide and the Engineering Index. Member of Audit Bureau of Circulation. UNSOLICITED MANUSCRIPTS will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Published every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc., 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036. North 7-2255. Cable Address: SCIENSERV.

ADVERTISING

L. D. Young, Advertising Director, SCIENCE NEWS, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036. Phone 202-667-8945.

Advertising Representatives: SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPERS. General Advertising Department: 200 Park Ave., New York, N.Y., TN 7-5000; 400 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill., SU 7-3355; Suite 211, Braniff Building, Dallas, Tex., PL 7-3847; 908 E. Northland Tower, Southfield, Mich., 444-4595; 6363 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif., OL 3-0026; Room 1522, Philadelphia National Bank Building, Philadelphia, Pa., LO 3-6275; 100 California St., San Francisco, Calif., 989-5570; Suite 417, 3384 Peachtree Rd., N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 261-1571.