

ence of the interior of the stomach at two levels, are taken in a single automatic exposure of  $1/120$ th of a second. Each of the 16 candid stomach pictures covers an area of the stomach as large as a man's hand.

Large numbers of candid camera "shots" of both normal and diseased stomachs will be shown to doctors at the meeting of the American Medical Association in New York City this month.

*Science News Letter, June 8, 1940*

GENERAL SCIENCE

# Failure to Respect Individual Threat to All Civilization

## Group of Scientists, Philosophers and Religious Leaders Plan Battle Against Totalitarian Thinking

**U**NITING in a cooperative effort to save democracy and intellectual freedom in the face of what they believe to be a serious threat from totalitarian thinking, a group of scientists, philosophers, and religious leaders met in New York to discuss plans for a national conference. The conference is to be held next fall and is an attempt to surmount the barriers of departmentalized thought which have so far hindered religious leaders and scientists from working in close harmony.

It is intended that the conference will be a permanent organization. Discussions will be arranged at various universities and colleges for the purpose of acquainting students with the philosophical and religious implications of scientific findings and also with the scientific approach to problems of philosophy, religion and ethics.

Civilization is threatened by the rise of totalitarian systems, the group meeting in New York declared. Science, philosophy, and religion face a common danger, for none of them can survive in an atmosphere of totalitarian thinking. They can survive, these men have de-

cided, only in a world which respects the human worth of the individual.

Philosophy and religion contribute to the world of science a recognition of the dignity of the human individual and the rights of humanity, to live and to add to human knowledge. Science contributes a searching, experimental attitude that refuses to accept dogmas and limit experimentation.

All have a common stake in the democratic way of life.

Meeting in the group were Prof. Louis Finkelstein, of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Prof. Harold D. Lasswell, New York University, and Prof. Paul Weiss, Bryn Mawr College, representatives of a large group of scientists and religious leaders.

The purposes of the conference are explained in the following statement issued at the meeting.

"The founding members of the Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion in Their Relation to the Democratic Way of Life realize that today civilization itself is threatened by the rise of totalitarian systems based on anti-

scientific, anti-philosophic, and anti-religious dogmas; that Science, Philosophy, and Religion can survive only in a world which respects the human worth of the individual; and, at the same time, that each of these traditions can make a contribution to the concept of universal human worth. They believe, further, that the departmentalization of thought in democratic societies has been in part responsible for the weakness of democracy in the face of totalitarianism.

"Clearly the time has come when those who are helping to fashion an American way of life should try to meet one another, to reach a mutual understanding, and if possible to formulate the basis on which they may cooperate for the preservation of democratic ideals.

"There is no suggestion that any discipline should become subject to another; nor is there any thought of reducing the various religious traditions to a common denominator. But without surrendering its individuality, each tradition—philosophic, religious, or scientific—involved in the general purpose, could contribute to the creation of mutual respect and understanding and to a common approach to American democratic living."

*Science News Letter, June 8, 1940*

More than 150,000 "Huns"—Hungarian partridges—have been liberated in widely scattered regions of the United States.

The United States received no *synthetic camphor* imports in the first quarter of 1940—Germany was almost the sole source of that product.

### WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE

*These shots taken with the new stomach camera described on the facing page show (left) a stomach ulcer as it causes those gnawing pains; the ulcer healing (center) and a cancer of the stomach.*

