

## MEDICINE

# Test for Pre-Diabetics

► A SIX-MINUTE test that will tell which members of a diabetic's family are ultimately destined to get diabetes themselves has been announced by Dr. George E. Anderson of the State University of New York College of Medicine, New York.

The test is made by injecting a small dose, three units, of a special insulin into the veins. Blood sugar determinations are then made after two, four and six minutes. The results divide most diabetics into two distinctive categories. One group is made up of those sensitive, or responsive, to insulin. The other is made up of those insensitive to insulin.

The test thus becomes a good "yardstick" for measuring improvement in the diabetic patient and showing which ones need higher doses of insulin. Dr. Anderson states in *Science* (April 16) that this test is better for this purpose than "casual" blood sugar determinations.

When giving the test to 50 non-diabetic persons, he found that some very fat persons, although other tests did not show them to have diabetes, nevertheless were not responsive to the special insulin in the six-minute test.

This defective response to insulin, Dr. Anderson thinks, must result in a decreased insulin-efficiency and in increased production demand on the body for insulin. Since

the obesity, or fatness, by itself imposes supernormal demands for insulin, such strained production-demand might be expected to result in "bankruptcy" of the body's insulin-producing mechanism.

The very fat person who develops diabetes usually suffers chiefly from a "relative" insufficiency of insulin, rather than from intrinsic inability of the body to produce insulin. This deficiency is relative to the exorbitant demands for insulin which the body cannot adequately meet.

Many diabetics give a history of having been very fat. But strikingly few non-diabetic very fat people actually develop diabetes, in spite of the increased demand for insulin made by their fatness. Which of the non-diabetic fat persons have a defective ability to respond to insulin might be told by the six-minute test before the diabetes develops, Dr. Anderson thinks.

The special insulin he uses is one free of a substance called the glucagon factor. An English scientist almost 20 years ago reported that diabetics could be classed as sensitive or insensitive to insulin. Canadian and U. S. workers were not able to confirm this. The reason, Dr. Anderson thinks, is that the commercial insulins in the United States and Canada were not free of this glucagon factor.

Science News Letter, May 1, 1954

## GENERAL SCIENCE

# "Red Baiting" Dismays

► THE THREAT against university professors by Congressional investigating committees is regarded in England "not only with dismay but with bewilderment," Dr. James Drever, professor of psychology at the University of Edinburgh, comments in the *Journal of Social Issues* (No. 3, 1953).

The vice-chancellors of British universities gathered last summer to discuss "the danger of interference by the state with properly academic affairs." However, they did not even consider questions involving members of their staffs or their political

affiliations. That kind of threat seemed to them so very remote as not to merit consideration.

What they did consider was that, since English universities all receive more than half their incomes from the government, there might be some future attempt to influence policy or to guide research along certain lines. It was the view of those attending that this possibility was certainly not imminent, and probably would never arise.

In England, the dismissal of an individual college professor simply could not occur, Dr. Drever explained.

"A professor is appointed aut vitam aut culpam, which means in effect that so long as he performs his statutory duties and commits no serious crime he cannot be removed from office," Dr. Drever said. "There is no individual or committee, local or national, upon whose goodwill his job depends."

The secure relationship between government and university might not work in a larger country, Dr. Drever admitted.

"It depends ultimately upon the fact that the individuals concerned know and trust one another," he said.

Science News Letter, May 1, 1954

## NOW—Quick—Slick Shoe Shines

### without Daubers or Brushes FOR LESS THAN ½ CENT

Now your shoes can always have that "well-groomed" look. For that important, last minute "touch-up" or complete shine. SHUMIT fits your hand like a mitten. Apply wax to any color shoes. Buff with back side to a slick shine. Special "monkey-face" fabric makes it fast and easy. Odorless—Greaseless. Ideal for travelers, sales personnel, professional people, office workers, executives, etc. One SHUMIT good for over 100 shines. Price 2 for only \$1 postpaid. Keep one handy at home, the other in desk at work or carry it with you. Use one 10 days and if you are not completely satisfied, return both for full refund. Send your name, address and only \$1 today to

ANCHOR SALES, Dept. 222  
11 East Huron St., Chicago 11, Ill.



Wax and Buffer  
"All-In-One"  
USE ON ANY  
COLOR SHOE  
For Men, Women  
Children  
Save Time, Money

# Questions

ENGINEERING—How can a car's color affect safety? p. 284.

□ □ □

GENERAL SCIENCE—What groups are backing the National Science Fair? See p. 282.

Which city has grown the fastest in the 1940-1950 decade? p. 285.

□ □ □

GERONTOLOGY—How does cortisone affect those stricken by apoplexy? p. 283.

□ □ □

MEDICINE—How are green mice helping cancer studies? p. 276.

□ □ □

OCEANOGRAPHY—What is Greenland's largest export? p. 277.

□ □ □

PHYSICS—What new method could be used to check for possible ether drift? p. 277.

□ □ □

Photographs: Cover and pp. 278 and 279, Bell Telephone Laboratories; p. 275, Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp.; p. 282, Fremont Davis; p. 288, Windsor's.

## TECHNOLOGY

## Luxembourg Rebuilding Broadcasting Station

► RADIO BROADCASTING facilities in Luxembourg are being extended through construction of two 920-foot towers that will beam programs into Paris with a power of 500,000 watts.

Now being rebuilt by the Telefunken-Works of Hanover, Germany, the station presently operates at 250,000 watts. The two tall towers will be spaced about 1,000 feet apart to produce best performance, according to experiments on a scale model. The maximum power of any commercial U. S. station is 50,000 watts.

The finished station, which will handle live, network, recorded and taped broadcasts, will be the most modern in Europe.

Science News Letter, May 1, 1954

# GOLF: Your LEFT

## SHOULDER makes the amazing difference!

One of the most startling discoveries to emerge from wide research in the golf swing is that your game literally hinges on your left shoulder!

How this is so and how to use this great discovery to improve your own game beyond all expectation in a matter of short weeks is set forth in **THE GOLF SECRET** by Dr. H. A. Murray—a medical doctor, golfer, and golf researcher, who has applied his expert knowledge of anatomy in this sweeping and utterly different study of the golf swing.

His method has now been tested on a large scale and been found to yield simply astounding results! Not only do golf scores take a sudden drop, but with the new method good golf is a hundred times easier than bad—because it is **NATURAL** (not strained) golf.

You may find out "the golf secret" for yourself, without risk. See below.

Fully illustrated

ORDER NOW:  
**THE GOLF SECRET by H. A. Murray**  
\$2.50 Postfree • 5-Day Money-Back Guarantee  
EMERSON BOOKS, Inc., Dept. 997-H,  
251 W. 19th St., New York 11