



coast of Antarctica, south of the Atlantic Ocean, will the total eclipse be visible.

The southern tip of Africa, Madagascar, most of Antarctica, and a large area of the Indian Ocean will have a partial eclipse.

Nov. 7 brings another total eclipse of the moon. This time the beginning is visible generally over North America, except for the eastern part, the region that saw the end of its predecessor. Asia, Australia, Alaska and the Pacific Ocean with its adjacent areas will be the part of the world where this eclipse will be visible.

Celestial Time Table for January

JAN. EST	
3 1:00 a.m.	Earth nearest to sun, distance 91,347,000 miles.
4 3:00 a.m.	Moon farthest from earth, distance 252,400 miles.

5 3:36 a.m.	Algor (variable star in Perseus) at minimum brightness.
8 12:26 a.m.	Algor at minimum.
9 2:06 a.m.	Moon in first quarter.
3:45 a.m.	Moon passes Mars.
10 9:15 p.m.	Algor at minimum.
13 6:04 p.m.	Algor at minimum.
16 1:21 a.m.	Full moon
5:00 p.m.	Moon nearest, distance 222,000 miles
20 2:51 p.m.	Moon passes Jupiter.
22 4:48 p.m.	Moon in last quarter.
25 6:38 p.m.	Moon passes Saturn.
28 2:10 a.m.	Algor at minimum.
29 12:53 a.m.	Moon passes Venus.
30 4:24 p.m.	New moon.
11:00 p.m.	Algor at minimum.
31 9:00 a.m.	Moon farthest, distance 252,700 miles.

Subtract one hour for CST, two hours for MST, and three for PST.

Science News Letter, December 29, 1956

PSYCHOLOGY

Score Absentee Workers

➤ WORKERS with "child minds in adult bodies" who cannot face up to adult responsibilities account for a great part of the country's time lost from work, Dr. N. Gillmor Long, Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company, reports in *Industrial Medicine and Surgery* (Dec.).

These "drone bees of society" cost industry and the public an estimated \$180,000,000 per year, Dr. Long reports.

His list of "drone" type workers, those that came under the title of "goldbricks" in the army, includes those who hate society in general, those who are occupationally square pegs in round holes, and those who are emotionally inadequate through frustration either at home or with fellow workers. They get relief by taking a day off now and then, reports Dr. Long.

One large group is made up of workers who feel they are not paid enough or are "too good for the job," Dr. Long reports. Another type of absentee is one whose wife and unmarried family members bring in a substantial income. This type will "knock off" a day occasionally to go fishing, says Dr. Long.

By careful charting he has also found a

group of Monday or Friday offenders, who think the company owes them an extra day or so.

One absentee worker can ruin a whole department, Dr. Long believes. Fellow workers quickly get dissatisfied when they see their co-worker "flitting about town on his self-selected extra days off."

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PHYSICS

Zero Power Reactor Now in Operation

➤ A NUCLEAR REACTOR with practically no power output has gone into operation at the Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, Ill., in order to make possible studies on fundamental principles of future reactors for power purposes.

ZPR-V, meaning No. 5 in a series of zero power reactors, contains two zones, one that produces "slow" or thermal neutrons, which then pass into the fast section to cause fission in enriched uranium. The entire unit, containing uranium fuel and control rods, is in a five-foot diameter tank.

Science News Letter, December 29, 1956

PSYCHOLOGY

Mentally Ill Cannot See Proverbs' Meaning

➤ AN UNDERSTANDING of the meaning of proverbs differentiates mentally sound persons from those with the common mental illness, schizophrenia.

This handy method for picking the mentally ill from the normal, found in research at the Veterans Administration Center, Baylor University, is reported in the *Journal of Consulting Psychology* (Dec.) by Dr. Donald R. Gorham.

Here is a sample proverb with four possible meanings to select from:

The sun shines upon all alike.

a. It's the same sun everywhere.

b. All are created equal.

c. The sun shines on everybody.

d. People that do the same things are alike.

The normal person, Dr. Gorham points out, is able to handle abstractions. The schizophrenic is limited to thinking concretely. Normal subjects, even as young as fifth graders, are able to score well on proverb tests.

Dr. Gorham tried the test on 332 Air Force basic airmen and 232 hospitalized schizophrenic veterans. From these groups he selected 100 Air Force men and picked 100 chronic schizophrenics to match them in sex, education and intelligence.

The proverbs test was found to separate correctly 80% of the normal subjects and 75% of the schizophrenic patients.

The test was not so effective, however, when used on paranoid patients.

If the test were used to sort out a group, only one percent of whom were schizophrenic, the test would not be so satisfactory, Dr. Gorham warns. However, if it is used on a clinic group of persons seeking assistance for mental and emotional problems, its value would be much greater.

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PUBLIC HEALTH

Rodents, Lizards May Carry Valley Fever Germ

➤ RODENTS, lizards and fish could be reservoirs for the organism that causes coccidioidomycosis (valley fever) in humans.

Twelve species of mammals, including rodents, skunks and rabbits, and such cold-bloods as crayfish, goldfish and lizards, were inoculated with *Coccidioides immitis*, the valley fever organism.

All the mammals died from the disease and the crayfish, goldfish and lizards developed lesions in which living organisms were present.

This is one of the few instances known in which organisms that attack humans also act similarly on cold-blooded animals such as fish and lizards. It was found in research by Drs. Frank E. Swatek and Orda A. Plunkett of the botany department at the University of California at Los Angeles.

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