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MISCELLANEOUS

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Questions

AGRICULTURE—How are rice fields in the United States now being threatened? p. 329.

GENERAL SCIENCE—How many planets in the universe are suitable for life? p. 322.

NUTRITION—What are some of the unusual items that pregnant women are found to crave?

PSYCHIATRY — How may humans react to space travel? p. 332.

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Photographs: Cover, pp. 325, 326 and 327, Dante Levi for Science Service; p. 323, Lockheed Missiles; p. 336, Sailmaker's Loft.

PSYCHIATRY

Tranquilizers Send Some **Patients to Mental Ward**

➤ TRANQUILIZERS, taken to treat high blood pressure in some patients are triggering depressions that send them to the hospital for psychiatric care.

This was reported to the American Psychiatric Association meeting in San Francisco by Dr. Robert L. Faucett of the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn. He said 80 such patients have now been seen at Mayo.

However, he said, tranquilizers may not have produced the mental illness since it seems unlikely that any drug could duplicate a complicated psychiatric illness directly. It is more likely that the drug acts to upset an unstable equilibrium of many internal forces.

Science News Letter, May 24, 1958

You Know?

Bread mold has been airlifted 20 miles high to test the lethal effects of cosmic rays.

Glaucoma, a leading cause of blindness after age 40, is a disease afflicting more than 1.000.000 Americans.

Today, it is more than four times as safe to travel by domestic scheduled airline than by automobile.

The National Research Council recommends 55 to 60 grams of protein daily for adults and up to 80 to 100 grams for teen-

A solar heating system of the type that can now be used in American homes in some two-thirds of the nation will pay for itself in less than ten years.

Chemoreceptors are the minute cells of the nervous system that telegraph sensations of taste and smell to the brain of all living creatures having these senses.