

of injections, a much wider use of this new protection will be possible. Medical experts have found that 75 per cent. of children of pre-school age are susceptible to diphtheria and it is in this group that most of the deaths occur.

"It is therefore of special importance that all children over six months of age be protected against diphtheria," the health officer continued in his address before the meeting.

With the new toxoid requiring only one injection instead of three, this job of protecting all the school children of a city against diphtheria can be done much more quickly.

Science News Letter, July 29, 1933

PSYCHIATRY

Insanity Gives Release From Hard Life

INSANITY is often a release from hard or unsatisfactory life, Dr. Mandel Sherman of the University of Chicago reported to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

One exceedingly common form of insanity is religious mania. This is more frequent among women than among men, though the difference is greater among whites than among Negroes.

Another form of insanity is the delusion that you have serious bodily illness. This afflicts more white women than it does white men; but among Negroes the ratio is reversed, and more male Negroes than females suffer from wholly imaginary "miztries."

There appears to be a direct relationship between the occurrence of insanity and generally wretched, poverty-stricken living conditions, at least among the Negroes.

Science News Letter, July 29, 1933

● A POSSIBLE SOLUTION OF A MAYAN MYSTERY

▼
R an address by

A C. Wythe Cooke

D U. S. Geological Survey

I To be given Friday, August 4, at 1:45 p. m. Eastern Standard Time over stations of the Columbia Broadcasting system. Each week a prominent scientist speaks over the Columbia System under the auspices of Science Service.
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PSYCHOLOGY

Occupational Tests Reveal Undeveloped Talents

Clinic Makes Classification and Rehabilitation Service Available for Unemployed; Is Aid to National Recovery

SCIENTIFIC METHODS of occupational guidance, made available for the first time to those without money to pay for this expensive service, have revealed unsuspected talents among men holding inferior positions, records of the Occupational Testing Clinic at Minneapolis, Minn., show.

The man who fails at a routine or inferior job and is laid off is not necessarily too stupid for it; he may have superior abilities in a different line. Actual cases of a man talented as an architect but failing as a timekeeper, men with clerical ability who could not hold a job at ordinary labor, a potential engineer who could not make good in a round house labor gang, are typical of the records in the Occupational Testing Clinic files.

Thoroughly Discouraged

These men did not know of their abilities. For the most part they were thoroughly discouraged and considered themselves failures—down-and-outers. Some were dependent upon charity for the care of their families. In good times their wages may have ranged from 35 to 60 cents an hour. In bad times they were idle.

But the Occupational Testing Clinic's individual study of these cases showed the men to be victims, not merely of the depression, but of misplacement at jobs not suited to their individual aptitudes. Re-training, or in some cases, just a steer in the right direction, resulted in successful placement at a higher wage level and satisfaction for both employer and employee.

This scientific guidance has been made available to the unemployed in Minneapolis by the Employment Stabilization Research of the University of Minnesota. The following cases are typical of the way in which the laboring man may be benefited if the new United States Employment Service follows the example of public employment services in Minnesota and makes this service in occupational classification and rehabilitation available to the unem-

ployed of the nation. The names used below are fictitious.

Case S 548. George Edwards is 26 years of age and has a wife and three children to support. The oldest child is six years old and the youngest two and a half. George's father was a barber. During the summer while George was attending high school he operated a labeling machine in a brewery, earning about \$20.00 a week. He continued at this job after he had quit school, and was earning \$22.50 per week when he married in 1925.

Since this job was seasonal in character, George obtained work as an extra man on a labor gang in a round house in the fall of 1926. He worked at this job for the railroad at \$2.88 a day for about a year and eight months.

He has had no permanent work since 1928, although he drove a truck for a package delivery company for about six months, drove a taxicab for about three or four months, was chore boy in a bakery shop for about three or four months, fired a low pressure steam boiler for two winters, and during one summer when the street railway company was laying a new track, he acted as flag man.

The Occupational Testing Clinic discovered that this man had unusually high abilities along clerical lines and excellent mechanical abilities, combined with the typical interests of the engineer. It was very clear that this man should have been trained as an engineer, but that such training would be impossible unless some way could be found to maintain his family while the training was being given. Attempts were made to work out some program of caring for the family, but the charity organizations were already over-burdened with the families of unemployed men, and it was therefore impossible to offer the engineering training, although training was provided in various electrical skills useful in connection with radio repairs and maintenance.

This man succeeded very well in his