The new project of museum publication is the work of Mrs. Loring Dam of the Museum Staff and George B. Roberts, architect. The Museum expects the publication to be of interest not only to students and classes but also to architects. The estimated cost of the Roman house today would be about \$150,000, but features of the architectural plan could be adapted to less pretentious modern construction.

The modern idea of putting a house on a pivot and turning it toward the sunlight was anticipated by the Romans, in that they provided more than one dining room, so that one would always get sunshine. The Roman house was a self-contained unit, with the activities all inside the building's walls. The garden was in a court. The "office" of the master of the house was centrally located, so that he could keep an eye on his household. So little did the exterior count in the household activities that there were shops arranged at the front and rented to merchants,

Science News Letter, November 4, 1933

TICENTES

## Eugenicists Approve New German Law

THE NEW German law providing for sterilization of hereditary degenerates meets with the approval of a group of eugenicists in this country, it is indicated by an editorial appearing in Eugenical News.

Like all laws, its use will depend upon its enforcement, it is pointed out, but the report adds, "It is difficult to see how the new German Sterilization Law could, as some have suggested, be deflected from its purely eugenical purpose, and be made an 'instrument of tyranny' for the sterilization of non-Nordic races."

"The new law is clean-cut, direct and 'model.' Its standards are social and genetical. Its application is entrusted to specialized courts and procedure. From a legal point of view nothing more could be desired.

"It is probable that the sterilization statutes of the several American states and the national sterilization statute of Germany will, in legal history, constitute a mile stone which marks the control by the most advanced nations of the world of a major aspect of controlling human reproduction, comparable in importance only with the state's legal control of marriage."

Science News Letter, November 4, 1933

PSYCHOLOGY

## Weight Loss Found to Be Clue to Personality Type

## Escape of Water From Body in Vapor on Breath and Invisible Perspiration Faster for Some Temperaments

See Front Cover

NEW link between the mind and the body has been described to psychologists in a report by Dr. W. R. Miles and his wife, Dr. Catharine C. Miles, of the Institute of Human Relations, Yale University.

The minute quantities of weight lost from your body when you are lying quietly at rest in a room of ordinary comfortable temperature have been found to serve as an index to the sort of person you are. Individuals who lose weight rapidly under such circumstances have, in general, some different personality traits from those who lose weight slowly.

The weight loss is due to water loss from the body in vapor on the breath, which can be easily seen in cold weather but which is present at all times, and in the invisible perspiration which is constantly keeping the skin of hands and feet soft and slightly moist. The average rate of such weight loss is about an ounce and a half an hour. But one section of the experimental group of subjects lost at a rate almost twice as high

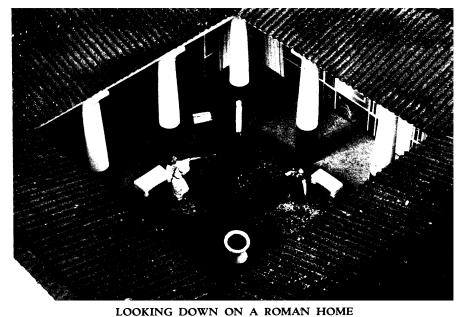
as the average for the others.

The ones losing weight slowly were taller and heavier than those in the high rate group, but the fast losers were quicker in reaction time tests. The slow losers were a little more intelligent than the fast losers but, in spite of that, the educational achievements of the fast losers was greater in terms of ability.

The following personality traits were found to be characteristic of the highloss group. They let others do the entertaining, day-dream, are self-conscious before a crowd, prefer writing to talking, tend to obey, and tend to regard themselves as slightly below average intellectually. On the other hand the following traits were found in the low-loss group. They plan but do not day-dream, get acquainted easily, seldom blush, rarely forget, tend to be cautious themselves, and consider reasons before obeying.

The cover picture shows Dr. Miles weighing a subject.

Science News Letter, November 4, 1983



This unusual close-up view of the miniature Roman home model reveals the garden through an opening in the roof over the court.