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PSYCHIATRY
Food Aversion Corrected By Combination Therapy

A NEW TREATMENT has been found for anorexia nervosa, a condition in which patients refuse to eat because they believe it is harmful.

Drs. Peter J. Dally and William Sargent of St. Thomas's Hospital in London report that their method has been tried by other hospitals and is more effective than any other treatment used previously.

The suggested procedure is to use large doses of chlorpromazine with modified insulin treatment carried to the point of sweating and drowsiness. The patient is kept in bed until his weight is nearly back to normal, the physicians report in the British Medical Journal, June 11, 1960.

Anorexia nervosa has puzzled physicians and psychiatrists since it was first described in 1874. Although some psychiatrists believe that patients must be slightly schizophrenic, others consider the condition a hysterical manifestation.

Patients are usually emaciated and may have been on a starvation diet of fewer than 1,000 calories per day for many months. Women are afflicted more often than men. Under psychoanalysis some women have indicated that they feared they would become pregnant if they ate.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1960

PHYSICS
Metal Model Shows Fermi Surface

See Front Cover

THE WAYS in which the momentum of a conduction electron varies as it travels through a metal is illustrated by means of a model with 14 concave faces that serve as a physical representation of the hypothetical Fermi surface.

As electrons move through the lattice work of atoms, the momentum of each varies according to the direction they take. The momentum varies from one metal to another depending on the number of atoms per unit volume and the number of conduction electrons per atom. In the model, seen on the cover of this week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, these variations are represented by the varying distances from the center to the surface.

The model was developed by physicist Dr. B. W. Roberts at General Electric Research Laboratory, Schenectady, N. Y.

Science News Letter, June 25, 1960

Questions

ARCHAEOLOGY—Of what materials were the ancient buildings found in Pakistan made? p. 406.

MEDICINE—How soon will a positive reaction show up in a skin-scratch test if a person is allergic to penicillin? p. 403.

Photographs—Cover, General Electric Research Laboratory; p. 403, The Upjohn Company; p. 405, Esso Petroleum Company; p. 406, The American Museum of Natural History; p. 412, The Philip Lesly Co.