

## SOCIOLOGY

# Report on Delinquents

➤ A SEXLESS Kinsey-like report on delinquency is in the making. It will tell why respected adults had undetected strays from the straight and narrow path of supposed normal behavior in youth.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science heard in Denver, Colo. a report on the beginning phases of an inquiry that will do for the public image of the delinquent what Kinsey did for the public's idea of the sex life.

From 400 to 500 men between ages 35 and 50 of various ethnic and religious groups are being interviewed in this project under the Adelphia Graduate Institute of Health, Education and Welfare, Garden City, N. Y.

Dr. Sophia M. Robinson, research associate of the project, explained that the plan is to probe into the youthful aggressive behavior of men who were not picked up by the police and punished and who are now leading useful lives.

Punishment by being locked up is not a sure cure, judging by those who "repeat" after being jailed, she observed. Too long, in her opinion, has society proceeded on the assumption that unless officially dealt with, disapproved youthful behavior is a first step to a career of crime.

In the fall of 1963 the inquiry will become nationwide, aimed at discovering better ways of delinquency prevention and control based on the new facts uncovered.

So far some of the findings reported are:

The current increase in reported delinquency may not be real but may reflect a different way of dealing with it. The background and composition of the police and

courts may have great influence on their judgment of the seriousness of the behavior of those who differ in race, national origin and religion.

There is more chance of police apprehending delinquents in the crowded sections of cities rather than the outlying areas.

The diagnosis and treatment of delinquency like that of psychiatric disorders may be influenced by social and economic factors.

Why crime has increased beyond expected proportions in the underdeveloped countries of the Middle East, the Far East, Asia, South Africa and parts of Latin America was explained by Prof. Walter A. Lunden of Iowa State University, Ames. Natives who migrate to newly industrialized city areas become rootless, confused people without the security of ancient tribal legal customs. Where developed nations have tried to impose their legal systems on native peoples, the people have struck back with violence in many places.

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## Radiation and Cancer

➤ FALLOUT and background radiation do not seem to be responsible for more than a very small fraction of the total cancer with which the human race is afflicted, Dr. Philip R. J. Burch, a British scientist from the University of Leeds working at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, told the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Denver, Colo.

Studies on the incidence of leukemia led

him to believe that the most important cancer-causing effect of radiation is to supplement spontaneous changes in the germ cells.

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## Earlier Races of Mankind

➤ EARLIER RACES of mankind whose bones are found as fossils are not just great-uncles of present-day man, but are evolutionary grandparents.

This idea that earlier races shared in a progressive evolution to our present species seems to have acceptance among anthropologists at the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Denver, Colo.

Races did not begin as primary characteristics of rising man or result from stages of evolution from lower to higher forms, implying that one race is superior to another, Prof. B. M. Alfred, University of Colorado anthropologist, explained. Race is viewed as the result of a breeding population and results from natural selection.

Races are populations distinguishable on genetic ground alone and should not be considered permanent, Prof. Frederick S. Hulse of the University of Arizona declared.

Racial diversification has been an evolutionary device promoting overall progress in many ways, Prof. Hulse pointed out, but because man has learned to change his environment, racial change may be less useful to the human future.

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## ANTHROPOLOGY

# Clues to Stone Age Man

➤ A ROCK SHELTER in southern France has yielded new evidence of how man lived in this region from 24,000 to 20,000 years ago.

Some 25,000 flint and bone objects have been collected at the Abri Pataud site in the village of Les Eyzies during the last four years by archaeologists, paleontologists and geologists from Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, India, Italy and the United States.

This region of the Dordogne, called the "prehistoric capital" of Europe, has several hundred Stone Age sites, including the Lascaux site with its famous cave paintings. The excavations at Abri Pataud were a joint undertaking by Harvard University's Peabody Museum and the Musée de l'Homme in Paris. The project was largely supported by the National Science Foundation.

Digging through 16 feet of earth, scientific teams found layers showing when the site was occupied. About 24,000 years ago, Stone Age hunters lived permanently at the campsite. The climate was mild, as evi-

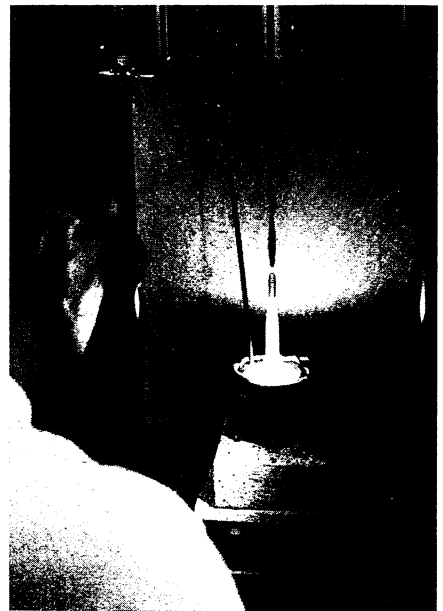
denced by remains of wild cattle, deer, horses and forest reindeer and the absence of cold weather animals.

Large limestone boulders forming a semi-circle around several sunken hearths suggest that these rocks were used to hold down one end of a lean-to made of skins fastened at the other end to the back wall of the shelter. A ditch, nine inches deep, was apparently used to drain off water.

Most of the flint tools found near the hearths are scrapers for working skins. At the edge of the shelter most of the tools found are burins, awls, spear points and knives that were probably made here during the daytime by those not out hunting.

The latest settlements found in the cave date from about 20,000 years ago when a much colder sub-arctic climate prevailed. This Stone Age people lived in the shelter only from late spring to early fall. Mostly arctic and tundra species of animals, such as mammoth, snow partridge and arctic reindeer, lived in the area at this time.

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**CONTINUOUS MASER**—Scientists of Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, have achieved a continuously operating solid state optical maser, using a single crystal rod of calcium tungstate containing trivalent neodymium. This type maser is expected to have a potential for generating power for communications and physical research. Here the crystal is being pulled from the melt.