iron had to take up some of the ammonia before it would work, but the experiments now show that this view is wrong.

Another difficulty in the way of large scale application of the technic is the fact that nitride of iron may be formed on catalysts which cuts down the surface at which the union between the two gases takes place.

MACHINE TESTS MIND AND RECORDS RESULT

A machine which automatically tests human intelligence and records the result entirely mechanically, was demonstrated before the American Psychological Association meeting by Dr. S. L. Pressey of Ohio State University. By simply pressing a key, the person tested revealed his mentality or lack of it.

Questions of the sort commonly used in intelligence tests were used. A question with four different answers, one of which was correct, was shown the subject and he merely had to indicate his choice by pressing one of four keys. The question and answers appeared successively in a window. When he pressed the key, a new question turned up in the window, and, if the proper key had been pressed, a counter recorded the success.

By a simple adjustment of the apparatus it was so readjusted that a new question appeared only when the first one was answered correctly while the counter recorded all attempts.

PLANT LIVES IN AIR; YET HAS HIGH IRON CONTENT

The long, gray festoons of Spanish moss, that form romantic draperies on the trees in the South, must get its food somewhere for all plants must. But since it has no roots and spends its whole life in the air, how does it get the necessary mineral salts? Drs. Edgar T. Wherry and Ruth Buchanan, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, have been asking themselves this question, and repeated it before the Ecological Society of America.

"Analyses of its ash showed it to contain unusually large amounts of sodium, iron, silicon, sulphur, and chlorine," said Dr. Wherry. "A sample from near the seacoast proved to contain more chlorine than one from some miles inland, suggesting that the source of this element is spray from the ocean which the wind carries up to high levels, and is then brought down by the rain. The sodium and sulphur may reach the plant in the same way, but where the silicon and iron come from is a mystery."

A mixture of asbestos and Portland cement, compressed into sheets, forms a splendid insulating material.

Radio vacuum tubes are called "valves" in England, because they let electricity through in one direction and not in another.
