

● RADIO

June 1, 4:15 p. m., E.S.T.
SEA SERPENTS AGAIN—Dr. Paul Bartsch
of the U. S. National Museum.

June 8, 4:15 p. m., E.S.T.
SCIENCE DIGS A MINE—Charles F. Jack-
son of the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

In the Science Service series of radio dis-
cussions led by Watson Davis, Director,
over the Columbia Broadcasting System.

and arrived on the pathway from the ear. The thinking part of the brain received it as an ear stimulus and the patient heard voices that did not exist.

When the blood sugar is lowered by insulin, the false new pathways or short circuits are isolated, Dr. Sakel believes. This banishes the hallucinations.

Because the false pathways are the most recently formed ones, they are most easily isolated. When the false pathways have been in existence for a long time, as in mental cases of long standing, it may not be possible to isolate them. This probably explains why the insulin treatment is more effective in acute, newly-developed cases of schizophrenia than chronic ones and in young rather than old patients.

Science News Letter, May 29, 1937

PHYSICS

Attempt to Split Neutron A Failure at Cavendish

THE neutron has not yet been disintegrated. This subatomic particle, one of those unknown until recent years, can not be split into electron and proton, older building blocks of the universe.

A scientific trio from famous Cambridge's famous Cavendish Laboratory, consisting of C. W. Gilbert, C. L. Smith, J. H. Fremlin, attempted to confirm a report from Japan that the neutron could be broken up. They bombarded it vigorously with the hearts or cores of heavy hydrogen atoms, called deuterons. But the neutron refused to split. (*Nature*, May 8).

Science News Letter, May 29, 1937

SEASICKNESS

Why Bring That Up?

By Dr. Joseph Franklin Montague

What to do about Seasickness

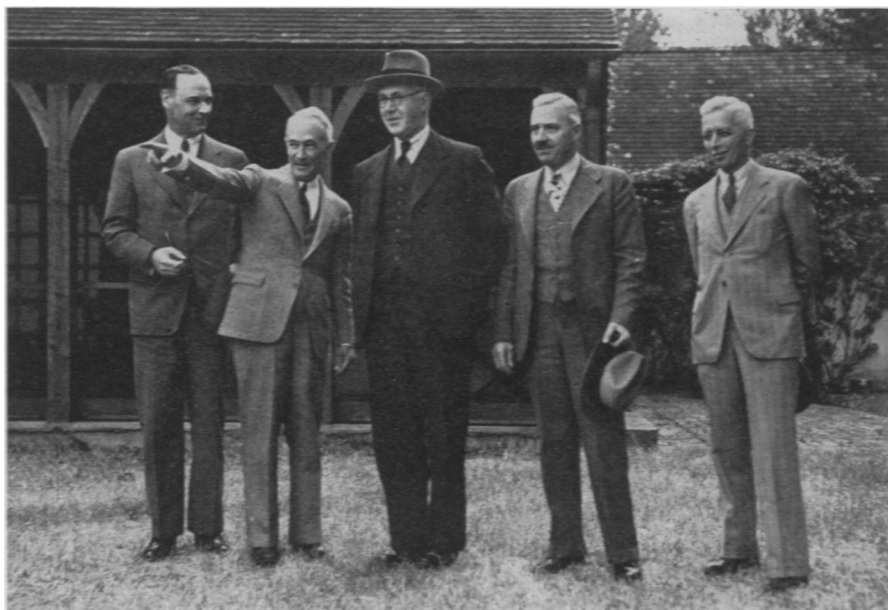
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SEASICKNESS



INSPECT NEW HEALTH CENTER SITE

Surgeon General Thomas Parran and other officials of the U. S. Public Health Service showed Sir Henry Dale, Nobel Prize Winner and director of the British National Institute for Medical Research, the spot near Bethesda, Md., where ground has been broken for the new U. S. National Institute of Research. The plans call for four buildings to house the federal health service's research activities in the fight to protect America from disease. When Sir Henry saw the site and plans he expressed unbounded admiration, tinged with envy, although his own institute is one of the world's outstanding medical research centers. "I wish we had the same thing," he said. Left to right: Prof. Carl Voegtlin, U. S. National Institute of Health; Dr. R. L. Thompson, director, U. S. National Institute of Health; Sir Henry Dale; Surgeon General Parran; Dr. R. E. Dyer, assistant director, U. S. National Institute of Health.

PHYSIOLOGY

British Scientist Describes Chemical Emissary to Muscles

MILLIONS of charges of a chemical, acetylcholine, spurt from nerve endings every time a thought commands a muscle to move, Sir Henry Dale, director of the British National Institute for Medical Research, explained in his first interview in the United States since sharing the Nobel Prize award for this discovery.

Research leading to the discovery was described by Sir Henry before medical audiences in Washington, D. C., Baltimore, and New York.

"When I talk to you," Sir Henry said, "millions of charges of acetylcholine are released to move my tongue and lips."

This same chemical is what causes sweat to stand out on a man's face when he has had a bad fright or other shock, Sir Henry explained. It was formerly thought that this effect was caused

by adrenalin, product of the adrenal glands.

With the exception of the sweat glands, acetylcholine is concerned only with the nerves that control voluntary muscles. It is probably formed at the endings of these nerves. Only an infinitesimal amount is released at each discharge.

Acetylcholine was known to scientists at least 50 years before its important role in the body was discovered. The research leading to this discovery was done partly by Sir Henry and partly by Prof. Otto Loewi at Graz, Austria, who shared with Sir Henry the Nobel Prize in medicine and physiology for 1936.

Practical application of the discovery is already being made in the case of a serious disease of muscle weakness, myasthenia gravis. The defect in this condi-

tion, doctors now know, is due either to too little acetylcholine or a too rapid destruction of it, resulting in inability to use the voluntary muscles. Patients suffering from this disease are now be-

ing helped by a medicine which preserves the acetylcholine from too rapid destruction. It is normally broken down into other chemicals after it has performed its function of nerve messenger.

Science News Letter, May 29, 1937

PHYSICS

Birth Notice of Particle Appears in Physics Journal

NOBEL prize physicist, Dr. Carl D. Anderson of California Institute of Technology, and his colleague, Dr. Seth H. Neddermeyer, have the scientific "birth notice" of their new atomic particle in the *Physical Review* (May 15).

Yet unnamed, the new particle is considered as intermediate in weight between the two simplest particles hitherto known: the electron and the proton. The electron has a negative charge of electricity while the proton has a positive charge of electricity and known to be the nucleus of a hydrogen atom.

A footnote in the scientific report entitled "Note on the Nature of Cosmic-Ray Particles," indicates that the claim

for priority as to who should be the scientific "parents" of the new atomic baby particle was a close race.

Notice is there made that the report of Drs. J. C. Street and E. C. Stevenson of Harvard University at the Washington meeting of the American Physical Society on April 29 gives "excellent experimental evidence showing the existence of particles less massive than protons but more penetrating than electrons. . ."

The Anderson-Neddermeyer paper was submitted for publication just a month earlier, on March 30. (See SNL, May 8)

Science News Letter, May 29, 1937

MEDICINE

Abortions Common Among Women Using Birth Control

RESORT to intentionally induced abortion is much more common among women who practice birth control than it is among women who do not. The abortionist is called upon to rectify the inadequacies of birth control.

Birth control is practiced more widely, although less effectively, in Chicago than in New York City.

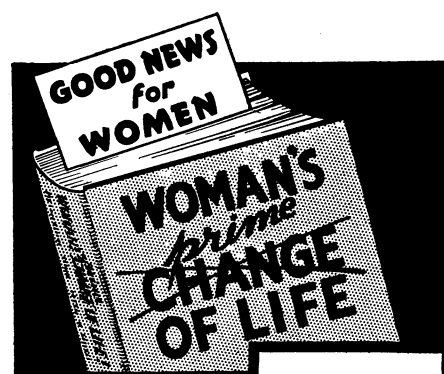
These are two facts that Dr. Raymond Pearl, Johns Hopkins University biologist, uncovered in his studies of the reproductive life of some 31,000 women delivered of babies in the hospitals of the East and of the Mississippi Valley.

From this study he makes a report on fertility and on contraception as practiced by New York and Chicago women. (*Journal, American Medical Association, April 24*)

What the biologist calls "reproductive wastage"—those pregnancies that terminate in miscarriages, abortions or stillbirths—constitute an outstanding part of Dr. Pearl's findings.

The 1,328 New York women studied who have experienced two or more pregnancies admit that one in every twenty-four pregnancies they have experienced in their aggregate reproductive lives has been terminated by a successful criminal abortion.

Furthermore, on their own admission,



Doctor Tells How to Make the "Change of Life" A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER—by following a few simple rules.

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