

## RADIO

June 15, 4:15 p.m., E.S.T.  
FISHING IN ALASKA—Frank T. Bell,  
Commissioner of Fisheries.

In the Science Service series of radio discussions over the Columbia Broadcasting System.

to be, or to have been, normally adjusted and stable personalities. All the families are long lived and have good health histories.

At present these young prodigies are tall, healthy children ranging in age from five to fifteen—all of them normal mentally, physically and emotionally.

"We cannot predict the futures of these children," Dr. Zorbaugh said. "So far, they and their families have had

careful guidance. The children have all had unusually fortunate educational experiences. If, as they grow older they become unstable, we believe it will be due to the Clinic's inability to control the hazards of development to which such children are exposed. . . .

"If society showed the interest in its children of genius that it shows in its idiots, we might speak more confidently. We spend millions of dollars yearly, for research and education, on our feeble-minded.

"An equal amount invested in our gifted and talented children would yield an immeasurably rich return—in a deeper understanding of the nature of giftedness and talent, in the increased social productivity of the gifted elements of our human population."

*Science News Letter, June 12, 1937*

### MEDICINE

## New Human Disease Found; Resembles Rabbit Ailment

A NEW brain disease of man, which closely resembles a disease that attacks rabbits in many parts of America and Europe, was described by Drs. Abner Wolf and David Cowen of New York at the meeting of the American Neurological Association at Atlantic City.

The new disease has the imposing name of granulomatous encephalomyelitis. It is caused by a tiny egg-shaped organism which attacks the brain. The New York doctors reported a case of this disease in an infant born in New York City of American parents and dying at 4 weeks of age with widespread inflammation of the brain, spinal cord and retina of the eye. A similar case has been reported in an infant in Brazil and another in Czecho-Slovakia.

The condition of the infant's brain was much like that seen in rabbits afflicted with a brain disease due to a parasite called *Encephalitozoon cuniculi*, and the germ or organism found in the dead baby's brain was very similar to the one that causes the rabbit disease.

### Insulin Shock Danger

Insulin shock, much heralded treatment for the widespread mental disease, schizophrenia, may itself produce a serious brain disease of another sort, with symptoms like paralysis agitans. Warning of this possibility was given by

Drs. Baldwin L. Keyes, Herbert Freed and Helena E. Riggs of Philadelphia.

Previous warnings on the use of insulin shock treatment for mental disease have had to do with the possibility of the patient dying before he could be given enough sugar to bring him out of the shock.

Serious insulin shock may and sometimes does cause serious brain changes, the Philadelphia doctors asserted. These may result in after-effects like those in some cases of epidemic encephalitis, so-called sleepy sickness. The condition, with its rigid muscles, immobile facial expression, tremors and cramps, is like paralysis agitans.

A case of possible brain hemorrhage following insulin shock, in which the patient was temporarily paralyzed on one side, was also reported by the Philadelphia doctors.

### X-Ray Treatment of Brain

A definite limit to X-ray dosage which can be used safely and effectively in treating brain cancer was set up by Drs. Percival Bailey, J. E. A. O'Connell and A. Brunschwig of Chicago.

"Any result which cannot be obtained by a depth-dose of 4,500 roentgen units," they state, "will not be obtained by higher dosage."

Further dosage, they said, may cause serious brain damage.

*Science News Letter, June 12, 1937*

### GENERAL SCIENCE

## Fear World Faces Disaster; Scientists Urged To Rally

SCIENCE is so universally useful that it is nurtured and praised by capitalist and communist, dictator-dominated states and democracies, peace enthusiast and war lord.

Because research and science are used for unsocial purposes so often, the ideal of a "brotherhood of scientists" has fallen into a general decline. In certain sections of the world where thought and truth are strait-jacketed, scientists can not participate in free interchange of opinion.

In this precarious state of the world's intellectual life, the rising tide of concern over the social consequences of science's applications is a hopeful sign. Latest of these efforts to orient and kindle the scientific spirit is the suggestion that the International Council of Scientific Unions take the lead in co-ordinating what has been proposed.

The task is as difficult as it is large. It requires bravery of the first rank and keen appreciation of the complex factors that intertwine governmental and industrial systems. It requires a scientific approach that admits mistake even though that new set of facts may dethrone righteous emotion.

Without the organization of labor and



## Write • SPEAK • Read ANOTHER LANGUAGE

Give yourself the most precious gift of all—a NEW LANGUAGE—or endow a dear one with the ability to speak, read and understand

**FRENCH • GERMAN  
ITALIAN • SPANISH**

or any of the 23 languages offered by the Linguaphone Institute.

The quick, easy way to acquire native accent and perfect fluency at home under the greatest language masters. Linguaphone Courses are used by America's foremost actors, singers, writers, teachers and thousands of the public.

Send for FREE Booklet

**LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE**

35 Rockefeller Center

New York City