

turbance may appear on one side and not on the other.

"Potential distribution over the human brain can be visualized by comparison with the disturbances in a slowly boiling liquid in which bubbles of gas are continually rising to break in ripples at the surface," said Prof. Harvey. "Large bubbles give rise to large slow waves while small ones give rapid rhythms.

"Sometimes the disturbance occupies a large area, sometimes a small. Bubbles appear in a nearly symmetrical pattern on right and left although a longer lasting disturbance, or one over a larger area, may occasionally occur on one side only. On the other hand, front and back show marked differences. In general many small bubbles arise at front (beta rhythms) and the medium size very regular bubbles at back (alpha rhythms). The distribution is continually changing.

"The pattern alters completely as sleep begins, passing through a definite sequence of changes until finally the whole liquid is pulsating to large regular bubbles about one a second."

Chilled Eggs Abnormal

Chilling the eggs of some of the lower animals causes abnormal development when they are restored to normal temperatures, Prof. Edwin G. Conklin of Princeton University told the meeting.

Prof. Conklin explained the mechanism of the changes as due to interruption of the normal whirlpool-like streaming of protoplasm in the eggs. Under ordinary circumstances this little whirlpool of life arranges the developing parts, but when it is temporarily stopped, cell division continues without its directive influence, and a state of biological anarchy results in the developing animal.

Australian Tribes Described

Primitive black natives of Australia were not without political organization, but such as they had was of the very simplest, Prof. D. Sutherland Davidson of the University of Pennsylvania explained.

The basic unit has been named the horde. It is a loose organization of from thirty to fifty closely related individuals who occupy a well-defined territory of varying extent, over which they exercise complete autonomy.

"Since the pre-European population of Australia is estimated to have been between 250,000 and 300,000 there must have been between 5,000 and 10,000 independent political entities on the continent, an astonishing condition when

compared with the aboriginal situation in other parts of the world," commented Prof. Davidson.

There was no higher organization in the sense of a central controlling government, but the natives did recognize larger groupings of hordes which were named on the bases of speech and cul-

tural practices and of territorial contiguity. These larger groupings contained from a few to several dozens of hordes each, and are considered as tribes.

Prof. Davidson has compiled a register of the tribes and hordes, under a grant from the American Philosophical Society.

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POPULATION

Racial Minorities, Not Those Of Culture, Problem in U. S.

RACIAL minorities, rather than national minorities, are America's problems, says Dr. Richard Hartshorne, University of Minnesota geographer, describing in the *Geographical Review* (April) the minorities in America and their distribution.

Europe's minority groups are largely cultural, so that the barber and tailor can change outward appearances in a few minutes. In America, the minorities are racial, and no beauty shop can make the descendant of a Negro slave who arrived in Virginia before the Pilgrims landed look very much like a white man. Thus Dr. Hartshorne describes the difference between Europe's and America's minority problems.

Only in a few localities, his researches show, is any other language than English (American) spoken by a majority of the inhabitants. Our racial minorities include the Negro, once imported as cheap labor; the Indian, an original inhabitant, who has been slowly forced out of the fertile lands into the desert; the Mexican, who came here as a laborer, or was a resident of Mexican territory ceded to the United States; and the Oriental, who came as cheap labor.

Each minority stays pretty close to some section of the country, so that in general, only one minority is of any importance in a given district. Thus, the Negro is the specific problem in the Southeast, the Mexican of the far Southwest, the Oriental of the Pacific coast, and the native Indian of the Southwest. Most members of the colored (non-white) races live in the seacoast and border states from southern New Jersey to northern California.

Mexican and native Indians, forming a large majority of the population in some parts of the Southwest, do not today feel any community of race, but "continued ostracism by the white pop-

ulation may lead to such feelings," concludes Dr. Hartshorne.

Intermixing of the eastern Oklahoma Indians and the Negroes of the same area, begun more than 200 years ago, will probably continue, resulting in a mixed colored race. Another minority, not racial, but sometimes treated with similar discrimination, consists of foreign-born persons. Their children, born in this country and educated in our schools, in general become full-fledged Americans, says Dr. Hartshorne; although some of the American-born descendants of southern European immigrants, brought up in foreign quarters of our large cities, are discriminated against as being un-American. Those born in other countries, says Dr. Hartshorne, are popularly classified as "fur-riners," and like all colored peoples, are not included as "100 per cent. American."

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GENERAL SCIENCE

New Service To Prevent Bibliography Duplication

A NEW intelligence service for scholars engaged in research is being inaugurated by Dr. Henry B. Van Hoesen, librarian of Brown University, who is secretary of the Bibliographical Society of America.

When the marshalling of references begins in connection with a research, the Bibliographical Society will carry a notice to its members telling by whom and where the bibliography is being prepared. Others working in the same field will be saved the trouble of duplicating the same compilation.

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There are ten veterinary colleges in the United States.