of this hitherto unrecognized and later stage of the Pleistocene epoch. Such a record is profusely represented in the terraced coasts and stream valleys, the changes in the stream patterns, the fault systems and abundant continental deposits on the interior margin or landward side of the Dominguez range. The marine deposits which formerly bordered the coastward side of the uplift recorded by the range have been effaced by subsidence and regression of the sea margin. Grosser division of the Pleistocene epoch into Earlier and Later Pleistocene stages, the latter including the Wilmington group, is herewith suggested.

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LOS ANGELES, CALIF.,
FEBRUARY 4, 1929

MEIER-SEASHORE ART JUDGMENT TEST

THE appearance of this test book marks the introduction of scientific procedure into a new field, namely, that of analysis and measurement of art talent. In principle, it embodies some of the features of objective measurement which have developed in the psychology of musical talent in the Iowa laboratory. It consists in the development of laboratory principles for the control and recording of art judgment and furnishes a fundamental technique by means of which the measurements may be made for countless purposes in the scientific study of art principles and art talent.

Hitherto numerous efforts have been made by the method of production and by the method of paired comparison under uncontrolled conditions. There is always a place for the method of production in the study of art; but the method here introduced gives a very much more generally available tool which conforms to the requirements of rigid control and systematic variation of factors to be observed. The two fundamental principles embodied in this procedure are, first, that when two complex objects or situations are presented for judgment as to preference they shall differ only in one respect, and this feature shall be clearly indicated in the instructions and understood by the person who makes the judgment. The second principle is that the feature varied and controlled for the purpose of experiment shall appear in its full setting in the picture as a whole. For example, if we are comparing two landscapes, one of them is a faithful copy of the original, the other is an equally faithful copy of the original, but with a substitution of one changed element, let us say the position of a human figure in the foreground which affects the principle of balance. In all other respects the two pictures are the same. The question which the person tested has to answer is, "In which of the two pictures is the position of the man the better?" By this type of procedure it is evident that any of the principles of art may be presented in endless variety for objective study.

The test book, now placed on the market[1] accompanied by directions and test blanks, has been perfected under a grant to Dr. Meier from the Carnegie Corporation. It consists of 125 pairs of pictures presented in an attractive form and beautifully printed by one of the new processes. A single book may be used in testing as many cases as can be handled before the book is mutilated or soiled. The test is self-administrative. Having a set of books for a classroom, an entire class may be tested at one time; if a set is not available, a single copy may be passed around so that each pupil has approximately one hour in which to make a record. Norms are being published. The present book has been standardized chiefly with reference to the eighth grade in the public schools; but with suitable precaution, it can be used within a range of several years both above and below that age.

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THE PROBLEM OF THE INTERACTION OF RADIATION AND THE ELECTRON

IN the course of some thermodynamical investigations the writer was led to deduce that the electron possesses the following properties: (a) It may possess internal energy apart from kinetic energy. (b) It can radiate in two entirely different ways, *viz.*, (1) on undergoing acceleration; (2) on emitting a part of its internal energy as radiation, which is not necessarily connected with its motion. (c) The surrounding radiation gradually slows down its motion, which is attended by an increase in internal energy. (d) The force acting upon it when placed in an electric field depends on its internal energy, in a general way decreases with it. It may therefore happen that under certain conditions it does not possess any electric field at all.

A paper on this subject was read at the New York meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, based on investigations contained in several papers in the course of publication. The results cited (this is not a new theory) will no doubt strike most readers as almost amazing in the light of our present knowledge of electricity, and no doubt the thought will arise that there must be something wrong in the deductions. The writer would be

[1] Published by the Bureau of Education Research, University of Iowa, at a nominal price of $1.00 per book, in the interest of the extension of scientific service in art.