

Haven 11, Conn. Although hormonal investigations continue to command the interest and support of the committee, preference, in accordance with current policy, will ordinarily be given to proposals for the investigation of neurological, psychobiological and behavioral problems of sex and reproduction.

THE Merit System Council of the State of West Virginia (212 Atlas Building, Charleston 1, W. Va.) announces unassembled examinations for higher positions in the West Virginia State Health Department. These include the position of director of communicable diseases with a salary of from \$4,800 to \$6,000, and of field clinician (tuberculosis), with a salary of from \$3,960 to \$5,160. There will be no state residence requirements for these examinations, but preference in making appointments may be given to West Virginia residents. Applications may be filed at any time at the office of the merit system supervisor, from whom further information can be obtained. New registers will be established as soon as a sufficient number of applications have been received to furnish adequate competition.

THE Medical School of the University of Minnesota will erect at a cost of two million dollars a twelve-story building as a memorial to the late Drs. Charles H. and William J. Mayo. The building will be situ-

ated at the center of the University Hospital Quadrangle and will form with the present buildings one medical center. These buildings include the existing Student Health Service, the obstetric unit and outpatient clinics, the William Henry Eustis Children's Hospital, the Elliot Memorial Hospital, the George Chase Christian Memorial Cancer Institute, the Todd Memorial Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, a future hospital addition and a proposed building for the School of Public Health. All floors of the building from the basement to the fifth floor will connect with the present hospital buildings. A Mayo Memorial Fund has been established to which may be credited private and public donations and appropriations. Headquarters for the fund are at 1126 Northwestern Bank Building.

YALE UNIVERSITY has received a grant from the American Optical Company in support of research on ocular behavior in the general program of the Clinic of Child Development in the School of Medicine. These studies are part of a systematic investigation of the ontogenetic development of behavior in infants and young children. They are being conducted under the direction of Dr. Arnold Gesell in close association with the guidance nursery and the diagnostic service of the clinic.

DISCUSSION

THE AGE OF THE PUNJAB SALT SERIES

No geologist whose vision extends farther than his local horizon can but be interested in the classical sections and fossils of the Salt Range in northwestern India, nor need be reminded of their importance. And similarly there has been no question of Indian geology that has been more debated or that has been more baffling, especially in recent years, than the geological age of the Saline Series of the Punjab.

I have just received a paper,¹ published last September by a distinguished Indian paleobotanist that seems to afford rather convincing evidence on this subject, and since this paper is likely to be missed by numerous geologists, especially in the present abnormal times, it seems desirable to call especial attention to it.

The Saline Series lies beneath unmistakable Paleozoic, and the classic and not often questioned interpretation was that the Salt beds were of Cambrian or pre-Cambrian age, as set forth in Blanford's "Manual of the Geology of India," published in 1878, thus constituting the "oldest known salt beds" (Kayser, p. 76).

Koken and Noetling (1902-03) appear to have been the first to question this, and subsequently several

others have taken up the Koken and Noetling views, explaining the observed stratigraphic succession as due to the Paleozoic having been overthrust on the Eocene by the so-called Nummulitic deformation.

It is no part of my purpose to give a detailed or documented account, and those interested can find suitable references in the published "Records of the Geological Survey of India." Professor Sahni's material consists of microscopic fragments, mostly vegetable but also including some insect remains. The former comprise such things as shreds of Conifer tracheids, plant hairs, tiny shreds of leaf cuticles, multiseriate pitted wood cells, etc. If this material was actually *in situ* there seems to be no question as to its post-Paleozoic age, although in all fairness it should be said that Sahni exhibits the proper scientific caution and is not in the least categorical, nor is it my purpose to do more than call attention to the first-hand work on the subject.

EDWARD W. BERRY

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

THE PEACH MOSAIC DISEASE¹

FIELD experiments in 1942 and 1943 in the Western Slope region of Colorado produced evidence that the

¹ Scientific Series Paper No. 186, Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, Fort Collins, Colo.

¹ B. Sahni, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. India*, 14: 49-66, 1944.