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## From the Bizarre—Some Progress

Donald Oken's criticism of Pauling's article "Orthomolecular psychiatry" (Letters, 14 June) might have been more to the point had he recalled the always amusing concept that major advances and breakthroughs are almost always the contributions of individuals outside the discipline in question. His label of Pauling's work as "wild speculation" to me is the highest of praiseit would seem at this point that psychiatrists (and the National Institute of Mental Health) would welcome weird guesses on etiological factors in mental disease from anyone.

Oken's criticism is, of course, worthy of consideration—and my personal model of mental disease does not agree with Pauling's . . . but perhaps if the NIMH would greet every bizarre idea with enthusiasm, some progress might be made.

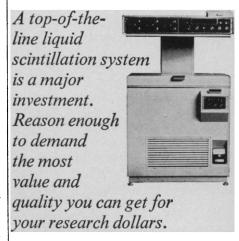
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## Scrutiny by an Outsider

Social science cannot claim to have established many "laws," but here is a proposition that might be a possibility: all groups resist objective ("scientific") scrutiny by outsiders. I think that McClure, in his review of Daniel Greenberg's book The Politics of Pure Science (17 May, p. 752) provides an illustration of this possible law. Even scientists as a group often resist objective scrutiny by outsiders, in this case, Greenberg. He has simply tried to show that scientists, like all other groups, have a set of values and an associated set of ideologies that justify their activities. There is nothing wrong with ideologies; they are functional and essential in social systems. But sometimes they overstate their case, just because the values they justify are so strongly held. At times ideologies not only do not recognize the importance of other values, but even brush them aside. In some instances, Greenberg is telling us, the ideology of "pure science" has done just this. Fundamental as it is to our society and our values, "pure science" is not everything. There are other values, and these must have their place in our society and they must be able to compete with the ideology of "pure science" in our political process. "Pure

A point of view on

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