

1941

## Standards for Research in Personality (Abstract)

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into a train at night are about 9 times greater than in daylight. Of the estimated \$3,000,000,000 annual economic loss to the country through automobile accidents it is shown that night driving costs about \$1,200,000,000, although only 25 per cent of the driving is done during this period of the day.

Research techniques are described which have been devised to analyze the physical factors of the luminant and electrical system of the car, as well as the psychological factors involved in seeing under conditions of low illumination.

Results from a series of these studies are summarized in which it is shown that the visibility function is not constant throughout the acuity range although acuity varies with the logarithm of the stimulus. The constants are different for high and low ranges of acuity.

Tables have been constructed to show the degree of illumination at different distances and points on the highway in front of the car and in the field of light. Data are also given on the degree of illumination necessary for a given level of acuity. It is shown that the same laws hold for acuities between 60 per cent and 115 per cent although certain individual differences affect the tolerance of light.

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#### A NEW TECHNIC FOR MEASURING THE EFFECT OF PRACTICE UPON INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

(ABSTRACT)

W. A. OWENS, JR.

It was suggested that the analysis of variance lends itself to this problem better than the conventional methods of measuring intercorrelations and standard deviations. An illustrative case was given.

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#### STANDARDS FOR RESEARCH IN PERSONALITY

(ABSTRACT)

EDWARD RICE AND R. H. SYLVESTER

Vivid word pictures of personalities have ever been portrayed in biographies and character studies. But until the present half cen-

ture, no standards had been established for analyses, evaluations or comparisons.

Bases for present endeavors in those lines were laid in the nineties by pioneers in general psychology. Progress was accelerated by the maturation of methods of mental measurement from 1908 to 1927. Since the latter date, research men in personality have advanced largely by means of methods developed within their own field.

Present tentative standards come from the following sources: (1) Imitations of proved methods of mental measurement. (2) Fulcra, dimensions, rating scales, questionnaires, and indirect tests. (3) Clarifications of the meaning of personality. (4) Various hit and miss trial and error endeavors.

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FURTHER STUDIES IN THE TECHNIQUE OF  
EVALUATING BIOLOGICAL BACKGROUND  
(ABSTRACT)

RICHARD SCHWEET

A six-category test of biological background, consisting of terms, names of men, etc., was constructed. Three alternate forms, marked by the same key and of equal difficulty, according to an item analysis, were made. Correlation of odd and even items gave reliability coefficients of + .88 and + .90.

Statistical analysis of 500 tests of college and high school students in the state showed significant differences, by analysis of variance, among the following groups: graduate students, juniors and seniors, freshmen and sophomores, and high school students. Norms are given for these groups. No significant differences were found among different comparable student groups throughout the state.

An indication of the validity of the test is shown by a correlation of + .53 with the final examination of forty students in one physiology class. The test may be useful in sectioning large classes in biology and estimating aptitude in this area.

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