

THE ARC LIGHT

A Journal of DIANETICS

Miami, Florida

May 1, 1952

No. 25

THE SECOND YEAR

The first twenty-four issues of The Arc Light were certainly significant. Dee and I think that the subscribers of this journal are worthy of many times over the praise we can give them. The only function of the publisher is to keep the paper on a strong financial basis. The only function of the editor is to select the best of the contributions, and present them to the reader in the most readable manner. Our job then, is a simple one. But you folks, the dear readers of The Arc Light have carried the real burden; the burden of support, not only of this publication, but other publications and the entire Dianetic movement. For that--we congratulate you!

We want to be very frank and make a statement as to our ideals in the coming issues of The Arc Light:

During the past year we have spoken with a wide variety of people interested and uninterested in Dianetics. And the interest in Dianetics among the people of the world has been as varied, pro and con, as the people with whom we have spoken. All of these people have a point of view. All of these people are very much alive in their fields of endeavor; doctors, lawyers, the clergy, men who speak over radios, through the press, across desks, over the telephone, and to God. All of these men, including the ones the philosophers call "the little men," have a common denominator. These men are searching for TRUTH!



EDITOR. BILL SWYGARD

Dianetics bears some basic truths. The truths of Dianetics are (as of today) pretty well hidden. They are hidden in many frames of thought. The truths of Dianetics are burried in prejudice, are burried in definitions and axioms. Dianetics is blanketed with opinion, and Dianetics is very well lost in the babble.

We had a letter this last month from a young man who lives on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea. This young man, who is standing off at quite a distance (far enough to get a good all-inclusive view) had this to say about Dianetics as represented by the various publications in this country:

"There seems to be very little accomplished in the field of Dianetics in your publications. The most pages are filled with compliments to each other on the supposed successes you have had. Of course, I do not include your publication in this criticism--your efforts are in the right direction."

Well, there is an eye-opener for you! But if what this young man testifies is true, then we have only one thing to add: There must be some changes made.

Changes are always difficult; difficult for the unthinking. Difficult for the aberrated and difficult for the weak.

Let us take a short look at what some of the changes might be. The first change could well be the loosening of the huge vocabulary that has been built up in Dianetics. It is quite obvious to us, who contact so many who are interested and disinterested in Dianetics that the vocabulary is strangling the very life out of the Art. If you want the life strangled out of you by your very own breath, try to explain to anyone in or out of Dianetics the term, "Lambda," its relation and significance in Dianetics.

THE SECOND YEAR Continued

To us, Dianetics means to "think through." Lambda gets in our way. This and several hundred other "terms" are getting in the way of the progress of Dianetics. We are going to ask our contributors to cut "terms" to a minimum. If terms are necessary, then they should be explained. This one factor of simplification can win many friends. You need not take our personal guarantee of this. Try it yourself.

The second change is most necessary. It was first called to our attention about a year ago. I was walking down the street with a friend who was "all Dianetics." We were engaged in a conversation far from his favorite subject, when all of the sudden this fellow stopped talking. I quickly noticed that a panel truck was passing by. A few painted words read, "Hubbard Cleaners--For pick up and delivery phone--." I am certain that I noticed a slight twitch in the fellow's shoulders. Did you ever fail to get at least a smile from a Dianeticist when you mentioned the word, "aberrated?" Have you noticed the reaction of the dyed-in-the-wool Dianeticist when in the course of everyday living he came across the following words in a newspaper, book, on the radio or anywhere else? "Foundation," "psychosomatic," "diabetics," "Purcell," "auditor," "file clerk," "clear."

See what we mean? There is absolutely nothing wrong with any of the above words. The "wrong" lies in their effect. None of the surnames or words above have anything against you. Why do they affect Dianeticists so? The second change, then, has the elements of a personal change. Now that the need for this change has been brought to the attention of those who read this, we feel certain that Dianetics will take another step forward.

The third and final change, if carried through, will also do much for the progress of Dianetics. At present (and apparently it will continue) there is a split here and there among the top members of the Dianetic group. The third change concerns a change of attitude. We feel that there is too much concern about the matters of state. The concern far exceeds the factual information in possession of most of those who are highly concerned.

Time after time Dianetics has become interrupted through outbursts of this nature. We think that Dianeticists are slowly overcoming these set-backs and delays.

The Arc Light will support these three changes. We will crusade for a simplification of Dianetic vocabulary by setting a good example on our semi-monthly pages. We will support the second change by continuing to bring to our readers a wide variety of authors. We can prove that many can contribute intelligently to Dianetics. The third change will be assisted by The Arc Light with solid support of those individuals and groups who show promise of ability to continue good hard work toward the best goals.

The work for the second year of The Arc Light may seem to some to be heavy. We don't think so. With the continued fine support we have been receiving, it can be done hands down.

William Swygard

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AN AMERICAN ABERRATION - By James W. Welgos

Ever since L. R. Hubbard hit the best seller list there has been a feeling among those trained by him concerning time which should be corrected if ultimate results are to be achieved. Here in the deah ol' USA we have a peculiar reaction to clocks. We run our lives by the numbers -- on clocks.

This little wild arbitrary has sneaked into the timeless endeavors of those who would achieve the highest peaks of man's existence. We jam ourselves up against the clock and race one another into timelessness. Brethren, give that old timepiece the heave ho and lets look behind our feelings about time.

In case you haven't realized it -- you've been pushed along a road made by yourself. A man came along and said, "you can be clear in twenty hours." You believed him without computing that it might be possible to become clear in twenty hours under his particular ministrations -- and might take a bit longer without his austere presence. Yeh, okay! I know what you're going to say. I've said it myself lots of times. "But, some guys do become clear in less than a half-week's work (by order of congress)."

AN AMERICAN ABERRATION - Continued

Well, why haven't you become clear (or optimum)? There are lots of factors involved in the answer to that question but the most important one will be, "Because you're not that other guy! You didn't live his life. You didn't take the responsibility for yourself. You weren't honest enough to look yourself square in the eye and admit you did something to keep in the good graces of society -- and if you still haven't started over the hump it's because you're still afraid of 'society.'"

Let's not kid ourselves. We've been doing it long enough and its about time we had some straight talking from the shoulder. To those who still want to duck themselves -- these words will be violent. But, to those who truly wish to become optimum they will be a set of red beacons indicating the path up to optimum.

You began life by being born into the world. When you were born some one said, "What time is it? We've got to know for the record." They stuck a time tab on your life and branded you with a clock. A bit later, they made you go to bed at a certain time in the afternoon and evening. Later, they made you start getting up at a certain time to go to school (which you probably hated also). Still later, you had to get up to go to work. You had your dates and your meals, your wedding, and you'll probably have your funeral, "at such and such a time."

Here in America we go still further to stamp the mark of time on your soul. We have, "piece-work," efficiency ratings, and a half-dozen other little gismos for making you speed up -- while watching the clock. You become very clock conscious. And if it isn't processed out and re-evaluated, you still will be.

Now, along comes a man who says, "I'll show you a bridge to a better life." And, what does he do? He sticks a time tag on the length of time that you're supposed to take in getting there. The race is still going on. His techniques, at first, were, frankly, lousy. But, they worked for some people, and still do. He played (essentially) a dirty trick on you and you fell for it. He said, "It isn't what you've done but what has been done to you." He neglected to tell you, though, that you had to be honest with yourself as to why you had ulcers, heart-trouble, et al.. So, because you weren't told this how could you possibly KNOW? So, of course the techniques didn't work. They couldn't because the essential ingredient was left out. It wasn't possible to get over the bridge in the length of time which he specified for you.

Thus, many guys and gals gave it all up as being a hoax. They had tried to make the specified techniques work and had not become "releases" or "clears." One report had it that there were more than 100,000 copies of the first book sold. Eliminating 50% as being presents to people who didn't appreciate the chance at immortality this would leave 50,000 people who should presently be optimums. But, I know of only 17 optimums or near-optimums on this date of May 21st, 1952. Score doesn't look too good. Does it?

One of the biggest factors in this poor score was the promise of 20 or 30 hours in the original book. This, of course, made good use of the American aberration concerning time and built up a good sales record. But, the final result was practically nil when compared to the original interest. All this is not meant as criticism but as a recognition of the facts as I saw them before going to the Foundation, while on the staff there and since I have been in the field.

Now, what does all of this mean to you? Just this. There are many good techniques now available. Don't judge them on the basis of their effectiveness in terms of time. Judge them by the number of optimums who have used them. Practically all of our techniques are fantastically better than those used by the Yogis, Rosicrucians, and others who also have a bridge to the optimum state. A technique should be fitted to the subject on the couch, not the subject to the technique.

If a technique produces certain results in one case does not mean that it will produce the same result in any other case. It makes no difference what reality you accept as being capable of taking you to optimum. If you believe in it and make good use of it while being honest with yourself -- you'll become optimum. Not necessarily in twenty or thirty hours but when you are ready to get there. When you are ready to tell society to go fly a kite and become honest with yourself. When you are willing to admit that you damned near had your leg cut off because someone looked at you crookedly.

AN AMERICAN ABERRATION - Continued

When you are willing to admit that your pneumonia was because papa wouldn't get you that white rat. When you are totally, as a whole man, ready to say, "Yep. I sure was a fool but I was the one who did it."

James W. Welgos
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THE TECHNIQUE OF SELECTIVE INVALIDATION: or HOW TO LET SOMEBODY KNOW HE'S WORKING ON BAD DATA. - By E. G. Robles, Jr.

There are many techniques in the field, and many theories to go with them. So far as I am able to discover, however, all of them miss one or more important points. The present formulation is an attempt to include, and use, the loose ends. It is, of course, necessary to point out that this is me, May, 1951, speaking out of my own reality. I lay no claim to being an authority, even though I, too, may be suffering from a slight case of altitude, as are the big names not mentioned above. Nevertheless, I refuse to state that this is the final answer; it is merely interesting as theory, and workable in practice; if a better theory or cleaner technique comes along, I will certainly not hold my brain-child as a static, as do some others. This, of course, is an invitation for the knights of the countertheories to lay their lances in rest and have at me; only by communication can we hope to perfect our techniques.

Several points of little mention are included in the following; If some of them are hard to swallow, bear with me; I'll try to justify them.

1. The newest theory seems to insist that all disease is psychosomatic, period. This is obviously not the case; most diseases and/or malfunctions of the body are psychogenic, but since the human organism learns only by experience, it is necessary that there be real illnesses to copy; therefore, there are real illnesses, about which little can be done, dianetically. There are real colds, real allergies, real polio, real arthritis, etc., but - not all of these are real; and, even though you may have Grandma's arthritis, she may have real arthritis, and hence, though your arthritis can be dianetically released, hers cannot. Hence the occasional 'failures' of dianetics qua psychosomatic medicine; dianetics does not fail; the person may actually have the disease.
2. According to theory, a person is basically creatively good on all dynamics; but good how? Good, being a relative term, means different things to different people; therefore, a person can be good only within the framework of his own reality, which leads us logically to
3. A person's own reality is based on data he has accumulated, of which more later; hence
4. A person is only as good as his data will allow him to be; or,
5. A Dianetic Clear with incorrect and/or insufficient data will still be aberrated.
6. A clear can, of course, acquire new data if he wishes, but suppose his old data includes the evaluation that one only learns through pain, and hence to avoid pain, one must not learn - or some such thing. He'll stay aberrated, since this is obviously an aberration - he may even be somewhat moronic, though clear.
7. By recent definition, a clear is completely self-determined; in refutation, allow me to point out that the only completely self-determined individual is the hermit in a warm climate who has no natural enemies, and who does not require food. Everyone else in the world, including the recent clears, is self-determined only to that degree which will not interfere with his own survival. Man is of necessity a social animal, and must, therefore, be controlled somewhat on seven of the eight dynamics. This may be self-control, but it is control, nevertheless. Complete self-determinism is, therefore, neither necessary nor sufficient. (For 'clarity', understood)
8. What is meant by self-determinism, then, even if not expressly so stated, is non-interfering self-determinism. That is Optimum. This is the key-word; OPTIMUM. But - optimum to whom? Again - frame of reference; Optimum to the person within the framework of his own data!

THE TECHNIQUE OF SELECTIVE INVALIDATION - Continued

In other words - you are what you learn. The human gathers data in many ways, and every bit of this data is manifested in his personality. The obvious corollary to the above is - it is not sufficient to refile the old data: it must also be re-evaluated, and new data must be supplied; in short, it is not only not necessary to avoid invalidating the data of the pre-clear, but it is, in fact, necessary that incorrect data be invalidated - ! But here is the catch. The auditor must not invalidate his data - he must invalidate it for himself. It is very necessary that at least a part of the contrary data be furnished out of his own experience. For this, Validation processing is essential.

The most important fact that L.R.H. mentioned in the first book is, as far as I am concerned, at least, the statement that "The mind knows how the mind works." I wish to amplify this statement, because as it stands it implies that anybody's mind knows how anybody else's mind works, which is obviously not true, or other schools of mental healing would have a larger percentage of successes. The statement as I believe it should read is "The mind of a particular person, and only the mind of that person, knows how the mind of that person works".

There are many ways of gathering data, varying from individual to individual, and from time to time. The sensory and 'extra-sensory' channels are continuously supplying messages to the individual from his environment. These messages are examined by the sub-awareness level monitoring function, and filed according to each individual's own method, but containing all sense impressions, together with any conscious and unconscious evaluations, and emotional content. Admittedly, pain is there too, but pain is not a percept! This is a point which is all too frequently missed. Pain is merely sensation in considerable volume. To prove this, take a pin; touch your finger with it. At this step the efferent nerves say merely 'something touching the finger'. Now increase the pressure. Hurts, doesn't it? But I defy anybody to find the exact point at which the nerves send 'pain' rather than 'touch'. So it is with the other senses. A whiff of chloroform is mildly pleasant. A lungful hurts like blazes. In other words, it is not 'what happens' that is most important, it is 'how much of it happens?' Volume is the keynote.

It is the same with data. A piece of data enters, and is stored in the 'new and not very reliable' file. It may or may not contain pain. Another incident occurs in which the data, which is the only data we have on the subject, works after a fashion. That is to say the organism lives through it. The data is now moved up to the 'workable and quite possibly valid' file. Another incident of more or less the same content occurs, and, since the data has been used with more success, it is applied with surety of favorable results. It works again. It is now filed in the 'True now and forever' file, with somewhat disastrous results. It is in this manner that Service Facsimiles enter. Birth, to give the most usual example, happens to everyone, and hence is prime data. It's valid data, too - the organism lived through it, didn't it? Further, since there is so much in it, it is likely to fit most situations. So it is used long before the rationalizing function comes into being, perhaps several times. It is a safe bet that if the Service Facsimile is birth, it was solidly wired in before the person was a week old!

Here is the key fact; all data which has never been used before, is used with some hesitation; it goes like this; to find the key-in, find the hole; the place where the computer takes time off to allow the decision of whether to use the data to be made. At this point the original data is examined to see whether it fits. And it's all there. This, by the way, is one explanation of the tendency to drift earlier from the key-in to the engram. The engramic material is all dragged out and looked at, at the time of the key-in. Hence, it's all there. All you have to do is find it.

The only file of importance, therefore, is the 'true now and forever' file. Data contradicting the data in that file is invariably present, but has no 'survival priority' value, and hence is filed elsewhere. It is this data which must be contacted after the data in the 'true' file has been contacted and the pain and/or emotion discharged from it.

A true datum, by the way, is a piece of data which has been used for survival purposes, and worked. Thereafter the data is used without hesitation.

Suppose that we have a person who is accident-prone in a certain way; he has data which says he's only happy when he has a sprained ankle, and so he falls downstairs every

THE TECHNIQUE OF SELECTIVE INVALIDATION Continued

time he comes to a flight high enough to make ankle-spraining a virtual certainty. Using modern techniques, one contacts, and runs, the compulsions to fall downstairs, the compulsions to have a sprained ankle, etc., and erases the various somatics, efforts, and what have you. The person will thank you profusely and fall down your office stairs. Why? Because the data that says 'I'm only happy when I have a sprained ankle' is still in the 'True' file. In fact, you've validated it to him. You thought it important enough to work like mad on, didn't you?

The technique formerly called 'Inverted Self-determined Effort Processing' and now called 'Selective Invalidation' was devised for just this purpose. Selective invalidation of non-survival data. One first finds the data which one wants to invalidate. One then goes to any incident on the chain, and thence earlier, making the pre-clear uncomfortable, and hence starting the invalidation, since any data which hurts you is not as good for your survival as data which does not hurt you.

When the basic engram on the chain is contacted, it is gotten into complete recall as data, since you must have many pegs to hang your later invalidations on. Having done this, have him recognize the first point where he rather hesitantly decided to use the data. Erase, using Effort. Scan the Efforts out of all the rest of the chain, then work old SOP reduction or erasure on the remaining incidents of the chain. Having done this, and while the data is still in full recall, find a time when he was happy without a sprained ankle. Find a chain of such times. (Along with the SOP erasure, by the way, it is well to find a time or six when he had a sprained ankle and wasn't happy. Such double-barreled invalidation is very helpful.) In short, Validation Processing of the ordinary downstairs is an aberrated thing to do, at which point the facsimile is no longer valid data. The next time he falls downstairs and sprains his ankle, he will be unhappy about it, which is, after all, a human reaction. BUT, he won't HAVE to fall downstairs any more.

All this was preamble to the essential kernel of thought, which goes as follows: BAD DATA IS DAMAGING ONLY INSOFAR AS THE PERSON INSISTS ON FORCING ITS APPLICATION TO THE REAL WORLD. If it is possible to show that the data is inapplicable, it ceases to be aberrative.

It is hoped that this brief outline of the theory behind the technique under discussion may be of use to some readers.

Cordially yours,
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FROM JOHN W. CAMPBELL, JR.

The mail is getting a bit too much for me. The open split between Hubbard and the Hubbard Dianetic Foundation seems to be causing a lot of trouble to a lot of people. I'm being forced to answer a lot of individual letters; I am, therefore, going to state my position.

One of the dianetics papers mentioned that many people in dianetics feel "like children of divorce," because of the split-up. I know precisely what is meant---and the only proper answer is that none of us has any sane right whatsoever to feel like "children"---children of divorce or otherwise. A child is someone who is not yet able to care for himself, not yet able to use his own judgement, consider the facts available, and come to a sound decision. If you feel like that---that's an aberration, and this is a fine time to get rid of it.

Ron Hubbard is clearly not clear; he has repeated a pattern of behavior detrimental to himself and others. He states that the original Board of Trustees prevented his achieving what he wanted to do, and that Don Purcell also prevented his achieving what he sought.

I was on the original Board of Trustees, and have certain reasons to question that, but it is unnecessary to do so. Accept his own statement; then he has claimed that he made the same mistake twice running. If he was mistaken in his original group of associates, he should have learned to select better. By his own statement, he failed to learn.

FROM JOHN W. CAMPBELL, JR. Continued

If his original group of associates was not in the wrong, he must have made a mistake in breaking with them.

If his original group was wrong, and he did not make a similar error in again selecting undesirable associates, then Purcell must have been right, and Hubbard wrong.

There is absolutely no way that situation can be sliced that does not come out "Hubbard made a mistake."

On the other hand, each of the members of the original Board of Trustees was a successful businessman in his own original work. Don Purcell has been a successful businessman for some years. Hubbard was President of the original Foundation, and Purcell is known by many to have followed Ron's ideas in the Wichita Foundation.

Both Foundations went down with a dull flop.

None of the above data is secret; none of it but is available in many places to many people.

Now I would like to suggest one other consideration:

The characteristic of a Revealed Dogma or Cult, is that the entire philosophy of the participating group is based on the Revealed Word of the Master, Whofus. The Great Whofus is the one, the only source of information. Lesser disciples may only interpret the meaning of the Word. Thus if it is recorded that, on the Twentieth Day, the disciples came to him in the morning, and the great Whofus spoke, saying "Get the hell out of here, you yahoos, and let me get some sleep!" the students of the Word may argue about the meaning of "sleep" in this context, as to whether it means that deep meditation of the trance state, and whether the "hell" referred to was some demon come to trouble the Great One's meditations. But the basic nature of a dogma or cult is that no one can have original ideas except The Master, and The Master is incapable of any error.

On the other hand, the scientific method involves the basic concept that no human being is incapable of error, and that no human being has a monopoly on originality, truth, or understanding. Newton was a great man; Newton didn't have the full answer on gravity, and the ideas had to be corrected. Newton, in other words, was wrong---he had a relatively superficial understanding of the forces at work.

Newton was also completely wrong in his belief that an achromatic refracting telescope was impossible.

Einstein's pulled a few boners, too. But one of the things that makes Einstein a truly great man is that he cheerfully agrees they were boners, and proceeds to learn how he made them, thereby learning how not to make them the next time. Also Einstein learned a new aspect of relativity from a dishwasher in a New York restaurant. In true science, no man has a monopoly on new and valuable ideas, and no man is free of error.

The Anathematised Ones in any cult are those who point out errors in the Word of the Master, or who suggest that he didn't have the whole answer---that something else needs to be added.

In a healthy and growing science, there are many men who are recognized as being about equally competent in the field, and no one man dominates the work. Einstein has a lot of public recognition, but there are a dozen other men who have, actually, done as much important work, but received less publicity. This situation makes Einstein jealous---he can't get the peace and quiet to study that the more fortunate others can, because he's always being hounded by some newspaper reporter or the like.

A point worth consideration, too, is the fact that, generally speaking, the most reliable, most trustworthy man is he who gets in, knuckles down to work, and doesn't do a great deal of talking about his own accomplishments, and doesn't hire a press-agent to talk for him.

It seems to me that the real Milestone One is the building of an organization that is sound, stable, sincere, and hard-working. One that doesn't shoot off fireworks twice a week, and hold a Hollywood Supermarket opening every other Tuesday, complete with spotlight displays and 50---count 'em! 50!---beautiful chorines. One that pays its bills on time, gets along with its neighbors, and makes a steady series of small, but solidly worked out, advances.

Explorers are essential to the development of a civilization--- but Rome got where it did because the Romans believed in building solid, firmly established roads that all Mankind

FROM JOHN W. CAMPBELL, JR. Continued

could follow.

Personally, I do not feel like a "child of divorce"; the divorce does not particularly upset me, because I started making my own judgements some while back. I regret the divorce, and it affects me, because I do regret it. Hubbard is a brilliant man, and he accomplished something extremely important. But he did not accomplish all that needs to be done; there are other men as brilliant as he, and others still who lack his brilliance and fire, but excell him very greatly in steady, solid work.

Many of the HDA's among you remember Paul Koontz; he does not have Ron's brilliance, dash, or intuition---but he has a solid, strong and dependable characteristic that complements Hubbard. Where Hubbard tends to explore, but not develop thoroughly, Paul builds a solid concrete pavement, four lanes wide, designed for heavy truck traffic.

There are a lot of other explorers in the field, too. Art Coulter's doing original work of great value. Kitselman is exploring from the Mystic side, as Coulter and others are exploring from the physical science side.

Joe Winter has been both exploring, and developing his explorations into a solid, clearly explainable technique.

To the extent dianetics is dependant on one man, it is a cult. To the extent it is built by many minds and many workers, it is a science.

Which segement of dianetics do you favor---the cult or the science?

Sincerely,
John W. Campbell, Jr.
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Mountainside, New Jersey

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TO THE READER: It is well to note that each article and letter found among the pages of The Arc Light represents the OPINION of the writer of that article or letter. The publisher prints this material as a matter of record of what has been thought and written in the field of Dianetics.

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D-E-E A-N-D B-I-L-L B-O-O-K S-H-O-P.

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MURDERERS OF GENIUS, Moral Essays by Lyle G. Saxton, 240 pp, \$3.00

The coming of the atomic age and the incalculable amounts of physical energy which are now readily available focus attention on another hitherto unexploited treasure house--the human soul and its stores of untapped spiritual energy. This is the contention of Lyle G. Saxton, and his book represents a pioneer effort at releasing unexampled amounts of productive power from the psyche of man.

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If knowing the truth will set us free, then surely there is something for every serious thinker here in this practical message of hope and inspiration.

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MURDERERS OF GENIUS, a brand new book, well bound in hard cloth cover, in autographed photograph edition, is in stock and available for immediate delivery.

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Phoenix, Ariz., April 5, 1952

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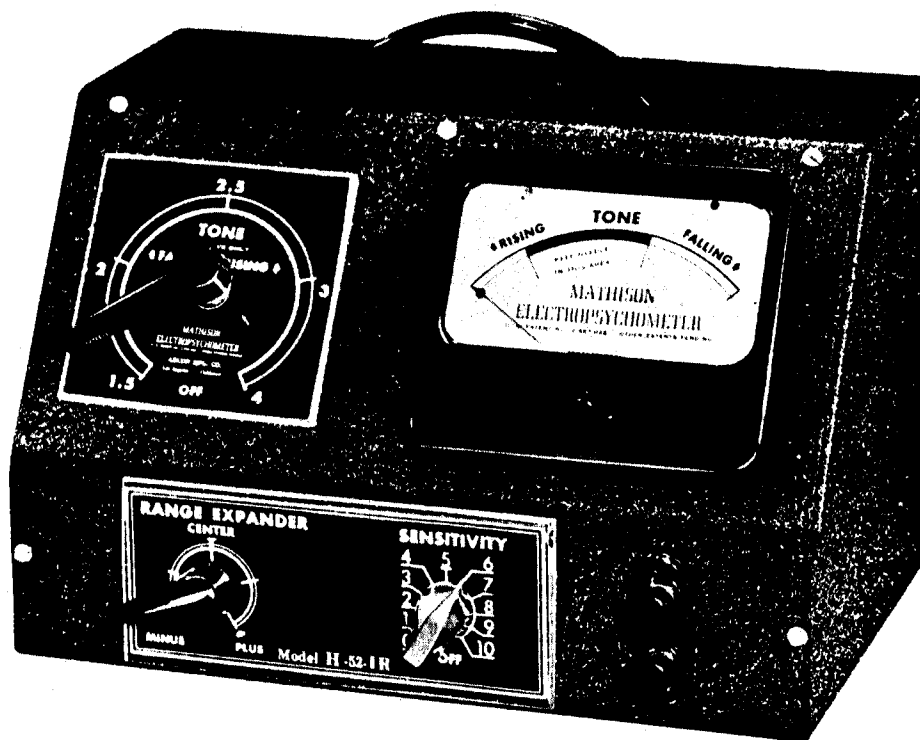
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