

## **Questions**

BIOCHEMISTRY — What is photosynthesis?
p. 3.
GENETICS — How does heredity affect the
mind? p. 9.
MEDICINE—When was atomic medicine born?
p. 4.
How does properdin affect cancer growth?
p. 6.
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
SURGERY — How can the appearance of scarred faces be improved? p. 7.
Photographs: Cover and p. 5, University of California; p. 3, U. S. Air Force; p. 7, Phillips Petroleum Company; p. 10, British Information Services; p. 16, Eastman Chemi- cal Products Inc.

**PSYCHOLOGY** 

## Rulers of Nations Called The Most Criminal Group

➤ RULERS, modern as well as ancient, are the most criminal group in their populations, Russian-born Prof. Pitirim A. Sorokin of Harvard University told the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in New York.

The rate of murderers found among rulers runs as high as one out of four or even one out of one, Prof. Sorokin reported.

Prof. Sorokin's research into the criminality of rulers included English, Russian, French, German, Austrian and Turkish monarchs, and the presidents and bosses of republics. Rulers' murders include the killing of father, mother, wife, brother and so on, he said.

Discovery of atomic energy and nuclear weapons challenge social scientists to find a way to prevent misuse of these modern advances by criminals, selfish groups, and especially by the governments of states, he pointed out.

"There is hardly any doubt," he warned, "that within one or two decades the nuclear weapons will pass into the hands of criminals. And there is no certainty that the rulers of nations would not misuse the nuclear weapons by plunging mankind into international or civil wars."

The ruling groups of today are possibly the most dangerous groups for the wellbeing of mankind, Prof. Sorokin warned.

Recent advances in the physical and biological sciences also call for abandonment of many theories of the social sciences as scientifically untenable. He included among the theories requiring drastic revision or abandonment the Freudian theory of personality and human behavior and the Darwinian theory of the struggle for existence.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1957