

Psych Experiment

Pigeons, Rats Have Hard Life

By KATIE DAVIS

Pigeons and rats have a hard life around the psychology laboratories in Pine Cottage.

Dr. Howard Hoffman, assistant professor of psychology, is using these animals in an experiment to analyze reactions caused by conflict.

The pigeons are taught to peck at a key in order to get food pellets which are given to them at the end of a certain time span. They are also subjected to a tone at certain intervals, at the end of which they receive an electric shock.

Prof Tells Of World Journeys

By CORDIE LEWIS

"Get out of the books, and go out and rub elbows with the people of the world," Dr. George E. Murphey, professor of education, said when speaking about his trip around the world on a freighter at the Education Student Council's Coffee Hour.

He left from New York City, and traveled to the Panama Canal, then to San Francisco, on to Asia by way of the west, and then along the coast of Africa.

Murphey said that he got more of a thrill out of seeing the faces of a proud Chinaman with the love his country showing in the glow of his face, than the sight of the Himalayas or the sun rising over Japan.

Murphey, who mainly teaches course in stories for children, said that he was thrilled with the attitude of the people in Asia toward children. He said that there was no such thing as illegitimacy here, because when an unwed mother doesn't want her child, there is always someone who will take the child and treat it as his own.

He said that grandparents would sit outside of their shops with groups of children sitting around listening to their stories. They tell of their countries, and they build such a national pride in the children that it serves as a type of security to them.

In Japan, Murphey said that poverty is treated with dignity. The women who work in the paint yards take a "tea break" in the middle of the day and enjoy it as much as any American enjoys his afternoon tea party, he said.

Murphey said that the type of consideration which he received in the shops of Hong Kong was much nicer than in many American stores. Once, he said, he was served refreshments in a tailor shop, and after he purchased a suit, the salesman called for a chauffeur to take him back to his hotel.

"All over the world, people are fascinating," Murphey added.

After the pigeons stop pecking because of their fear of the shock, the shock is turned off. Tones of new frequencies are presented to see if the pigeons fear of the shock at the original tone generalizes, that is, extends to the new tones.

Hoffman has found that the tendency for the pigeons to respond to new frequencies depends on how motivated they are to receive food. If they are very hungry their fear will not generalize and they will continue pecking even upon hearing the new tone. If they are not hungry, fear of the shock causes them to stop pecking when they hear the new tones.

The rats in Hoffman's experiment are taught to receive food pellets by pressing a bar at a 3500 cycle tone. Other tones are presented to measure their generalization of responses to these tones.

A second group of rats is also taught to press a bar this time to avoid a shock given at the end of a 3500 cycle tone. Their generalization is also measured.

A third group of hungry rats which really have hard decisions to make is confronted with a conflict situation which forces them to choose between pushing a bar to avoid a shock and pushing another bar to get fed. Their responses are also analyzed after new frequencies of the tone are presented.

Hoffman has a grant of \$7135 from the Public Health Service to perform these experiments.

The general aim of their experiments is to study ways in which conflict develops, psychological symptoms caused by it and training procedures that can be used to modify its effects.



PSYCHOLOGICAL PIGEON—is being held by Dr. Howard Hoffman, assistant professor of psychology. The pigeon is one of the many used by the Department of Psychology in their experiments. The laboratory is located in Pine Cottage.

Art Grad Club Conducts Sale Of Holiday Art

The art education graduate club collected \$200 during the first three hours of their Christmas art sale which started 9 a.m. yesterday in 105 Temporary Building.

Their original Christmas art will also be sold from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. today.

William Kasza, a member of the graduate club, reported that the response of buyers yesterday has led the club to replenish the supply by collecting more art work from art education faculty members, students and graduates.

Money collected from the sale will help provide the graduate students with books and other facilities which will help them on their work for their advanced degrees. It will also be used to buy equipment and paintings for the art education department.

Being sold are prints, water colors, and oils, bowls, vases, jars, and dishes, and silver cuff links, necklaces and pendants.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Lennart Roos of Harnosand, north Sweden, lost his driver's license recently and was notified it was found in Casablanca, Morocco.

Alumni Club to Sponsor Formal Holiday Dance

The annual Penn State Formal Holiday Dance, sponsored by the Penn State Alumni Club of Lancaster County, will be held on Dec. 26, at Lancaster's Hotel Brunswick.

Admission per couple for undergraduates is \$3. Tickets can be obtained from Robert Troxell, 1048 Louise Ave., Lancaster, either by mail or during vacation.

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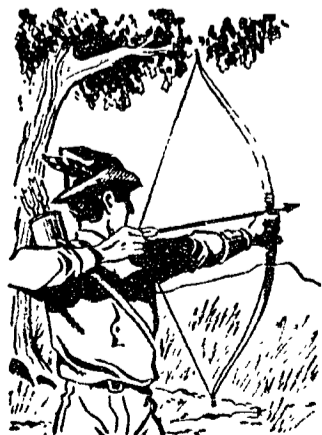
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