

PSYCHOLOGY

Chairman: C. C. JOSEY, Butler University

Dr. Alma Long, Purdue University, was elected chairman of the section for 1947.

ABSTRACTS

A further study of interpretations of human behavior given by adolescents. ALMA LONG, Purdue University.—*Hypothesis:* That clues to needs for education of youths may be derived from their interpretations of ordinary life situations which involve emotional reaction between two or more persons. *Method:* The projective technique has been employed, in which illustrations of incidents common to modern family life were presented to children in grades seven to twelve of four representative schools in Indiana. Standardized tests procedure, timing and materials. Replies to three leading questions about what seemed to be taking place and what might be in the minds of the persons represented were requested. Supplementary data: Intelligence, Home quality, and Personality scores. *Findings:* Progress report of the analysis of 600 sets of responses: T-Scores derived from supplementary data serve to roughly classify individuals into the extreme and middle groups in relation to potential differences in personality traits and ability to interpret emotional aspects of human behavior. Within separate age and ability groups, outstanding achievement on the test focuses upon what seems to be indication of social or emotional maturity. Variations in response appear to be associated with the ability, experience and attitudes of the individual in patterns which are useful for individual guidance as well as for the furtherance of education toward improved human relationships.

Opinions of high school pupils concerning their course in psychology. T. L. ENGLE, Indiana University Extension Division.—Late in the spring of 1946 pupils taking courses in psychology in six Indiana high schools were asked to fill in a rating scale designed to measure their opinions concerning the value of various subject matter fields for meeting various educational objectives. A total of 276 pupils, 108 boys and 168 girls, filled in the rating scale. Mean scores for each subject matter field for each educational objective have been determined and the significance of differences in scores have been computed. It has been found that pupils believe psychology to be very valuable in meeting most of the objectives of secondary education but that it is especially valuable in meeting the objectives of training for worthy home membership and desirable personality. Pupils expressed the opinion that some subject matter fields other than psychology are of more value than psychology in meeting the citizenship and vocational objectives. Pupils favor the offering of more work in psychology at the high school level.