This is the first of a series of articles on subjects of interest. The next few should be of interest to all you depraved dopers out there. Questions and requests for articles, comments, additions and corrections, interesting info of any kind (I would be pleased to hear from technofreaks of any kind, especially underground chemists and budding Cwugley-types), as well as names and phone numbers of easy lays should be sent to TAP, c/o Oz Y. Mandias. Please remember to enclose a S. A. S. E. if you want a personal reply, though I'll reply to interesting letters without one.

First of all, there are a few basic ground-rules one should be aware of if you're into psychedelics. "THC" is almost always PCP (a.k.a. "angel dust"). THC is somewhat difficult to synthesize and expensive and there is a good market. On the other hand, PCP is easy to synthesize, cheap as hell to make and the market, until recently at least, was limited (due to reputed bad side-effects). It doesn't take a genius to figure out the result, given the lack of F.T.C. control over the unscrupulous big-time suppliers. The same can be said of stuff sold as mescaline (unless you live in the SouthWest) and psilocybin, unless you have a good connection. These are usually acid or our friend PCP again. It can be said, however, that acid is usually acid, though as to quality........

Bearing this in mind, there are a number of simple tests you can perform to ascertain what exactly your head is getting or at least what it's not getting. The easiest of these is the very useful Marquis test (seen in "French Connection") which uses a testing reagent consisting of 20 drops of formaldehyde (available in drug stores) dissolved in 10 ml concentrated sulphuric acid (from drug stores, gas stations or school labs). A drop of this reagent is added to a drop of water on a piece of glass in which is dissolved a small amount (a few grains or fragments) of the substance to be tested. (Note: Quantities and %ages in this and the following tests need not be exactly correct.) Any color changes in the liquid are then noted and compared with the chart. These tests are not absolute proof but they are good enough for our purposes.

OTHER TESTS:

p-DMA B Test: Warm a small amount of the substance with a 1 % solution of para-dimethylamino-benzaldehyde (available from a chemical supply house) in concentrated sulphuric acid in a test tube. Note the color. Purple means LSD and related cpds., DMT, psilocin or psilocybin. Yellow means procaine or PCP. Red means THC or cannabis.

Beam's Test: Add a small amount of the substance to a solution of 5 % potassium hydroxide in methanol. A red color indicates cannabis or THC.

Zwikker's Test: To a 1 to 2 ml solution of unknown substance in methanol or ethanol add 1 to 2 ml 1 % solution of cobalt nitrate (or acetate) in methanol or ethanol. Now add 1 or 2 drops of potassium dichromate (lye). A deep violet-blue color indicates barbiturates. (The color persists from a chemical supply house) in concentrated sulphuric acid in a test tube. Note the color. Purple means LSD and related cpds., DMT, psilocin or psilocybin. Yellow means procaine or PCP. Red means THC or cannabis.

Strychnine Test: To 1 ml solution of unknown substance in methanol or ethanol add 1 to 2 ml 1 % solution of cobalt nitrate (or acetate) in methanol or ethanol. Now add 1 or 2 drops of potassium dichromate (lye). A deep violet-blue color indicates barbiturates. (The color persists from a chemical supply house) in concentrated sulphuric acid in a test tube. Note the color. Purple means LSD and related cpds., DMT, psilocin or psilocybin. Yellow means procaine or PCP. Red means THC or cannabis.

Strychnine Test: It can be said that for all intents and purposes, there is no strychnine in acid and never has been. If you're paranoid, take a .5 % solution of potassium dichromate in 60 % sulphuric acid and add a drop of this to a small amount of the unknown on a white tile. Purple changing to red indicates the presence of strychnine.

Chen's Test: This test will give a purple color for phenylephrine, phenylpropanolamine and ephedrine, which are commonly sold as speed and won't get you off. To one drop of a 1 % solution of the unknown in vinegar (diluted with 1/2 water), add 1 drop of 1 % copper sulphate followed by 1 drop 8 % sodium hydroxide (lye). Note the color.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above article was submitted in long-hand and any errors or mistakes are the result of my inability to decipher his handwriting, my lack of drug and chemical knowledge (Who, me?!) and my all-round general stupidity.

Wrong subject

WENATCHEE, Wash. — A microscopic examination in a biology lab turned into a police interrogation for a Wenatchee High School student. The class assignment last Friday was inspecting fungi. But a 15-year-old student was charged with possession of marijuana after the biology teacher discovered the "grass" the student was studying intently was the wrong specimen.

Phone company loses

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - The huge Pacific Telephone Co. came within a few days of losing its downtown headquarters on the auction block to pay a disputed $17,000 debt.

Loren Gary, who had his residential telephone service cut off by the company to settle a $17,000 debt, filed suit against the powerful utility charging it overcharged him for service without the customary five days notice.

He contended that his payment was mailed on time. The court ruled in his favor and the phone company lost its appeal.

When the phone company admitted in court that it had received the payment but charged him $17,000 anyway, to reconnect his service, Gary went to City Hall and filed suit in small claims court.

New York Telephone Co. has issued a warning to "phone phreaks" who use "blue boxes" to illegally avoid long distance charges. The company has developed a computer which detects and prevents the fraud. However, at the news conference the company called to unveil its weapon, the computer malfunctioned. It took 20 minutes to repair the computer.

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Dear TAP,

During the Christmas break I got together with a group of friends and decided to try our hand at amateur radio. We bought an antique Bell telephone which we found in the basement of our house. We got the phone working and it was a lot of fun. We started experimenting with different frequencies and was able to communicate with other hams around the world. It was a lot of fun and we plan to continue exploring the world of amateur radio in the future.

Sincerely,

[Name]
SCANNING by Napoleon Solo

IN OUR LAST ISSUE WE TAKEN ABOUT HOW TO FIND THE ROB NUMBER IN-WAYS PRUDENT... How was going to talk about methods of finding interesting ROB NUMBERS on any given page. THE FIRST THING TO BE NOTED IS THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE ROB NUMBER. Then you have to be very careful about what information there can be misleading.

1. UNICODE: UNA WHOLE NEW MIGHT INFLUENTIAL AREAS LIKE DALLAS, HOUSTON, WASH, D.C., AND THE ISLANDS. A SHOPPING CENTER IS A GOOD PLACE TO FIND THE ROB NUMBERS.

2. WAYS TO FIND THEM: Styles vary in Miami, Atlanta, Newark, NJ. ARE ALSO COMMON IN LOCAL.

A. KNOWLEDGE: titie's WASH IN, ALTEN. NJ, CALIF. ALSO, THERE ARE WASH KITS. People buy some methods will put a new card or card in larger for a new card or card in larger.

B. PROFESSIONAL: IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT THE ROB NUMBER WILL CHANGE IF YOU WANT TO FIND THE ROB NUMBER IN-WAYS LATER.

C. REGULAR: MOST PEOPLE WILL DELETE THE NUMBER IN-WAYS IN THE BEGINNING, BUT ALWAYS IT PROBABLY WONT BE EASY.

D. BIBLIOGRAPHY: THE NUMBER WILL DELETE THE NUMBER IN-WAYS AS A PLACE TO START LOOKING.

E. HUMOR: THIS IS WHERE NUMBERS, THATS WHAT NOBODY BELIEVE, BUT LETS NOT OVERLOOK THE FACT THAT THERE ARE NUMBERS.


G. ANNOUNCEMENTS: THE ROB NUMBERS CAN BE IN-WAYS IN THE BEGINNING, BUT THE ROB NUMBERS MIGHT BE A POTENTIAL ROBBERY.

H. IN THIS ISSUE, THE ROB NUMBER WAS IN-WAYS IN THE BEGINNING.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO HELP YOU.

NUMBER (910) 735-6789 TO: DIRECTORS, AT: 1836, 20TH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10020.

(Continued on next page)
Ma Bell Has Competition

The seven independent telephone companies in New Jersey might not be as big as Ma Bell, but they provide the same level of service.

New Jersey Bell has at least 30 times as many phones as its smaller counterparts, but the state's independent companies in some cases charge lower rates.

The seven independent companies in the state serve 118,118 business and residential customers with 1,132,341 telephones compared to New Jersey Bell with about 3 million customers and 6 million individual telephones.

Only two of the non-Bell companies in New Jersey are: New Jersey Telephone Co., which serves 6,386 customers with 11,710 telephones; and the Continental Telephone Co., which serves 5,024 New Jersey customers with 13,341 telephones.

New Jersey Bell's average monthly residential rate for a dial telephone since 1956, Bell charges between $6.20 a month and $7.65 a month [or the same service.

Other non-Bell companies in New Jersey, United of New Jersey and the West Jersey Telephone Co., all operated by United Telcommunications Inc.; the Delaware Valley Telephone Co.; the Continental Telephone Co.; and the Hillsborough & Montgomery Telephone Co., which operate the telephone system in parts of Sussex County.

Rates for Local Companies

The two local companies, the Hillsborough & Montgomery Telephone Co. of Belle Meade and the Warick Valley Telephone Co. of Warwick, N.Y., which operate the telephone system in parts of Sussex County.

But even those two companies serve more than 3,000 business and residential customers each in New Jersey and, according to statistics provided by the N.J. Independent Telephone Association in Washington, each grossed more than $1 million in 1976.

Customers cannot pick and choose their telephone company because each utility was granted its own service area under the Federal Communications Act in the 1930's.

Rules for New Jersey Bell

Hillsborough & Montgomery Telephone Co. has about 40 employees and serves 6,386 customers with 11,710 telephones.

The company has not raised its $3.65 monthly charge for a dial telephone since 1956. Bell charges between $6.20 and $7.65 a month for the same service.

General Manager Roy Peterson said numerous long distance calls have enabled Hillsborough & Montgomery to keep its basic rate the same for over seven years. The company has picked up a new customer each year, he added.

A new customer is connected with the company's central office by making more long-distance calls than New Jersey Bell customers, Peterson said.

The Warwick Valley Company serves 5,024 New Jersey customers.

"We started in 1902 when a number of farmers began connecting their porches to the telephone system," said president John W. Sanden.

New Jersey Bell officials concede that in some respects the services they do have advantages mainly because they have a smaller, faster dialing area and because many of their customers are more affluent than those in more orderly service areas.

Other non-Bell companies in New Jersey are: New Jersey Telephone Co., United of New Jersey and the West Jersey Telephone Co. all operated by United Telecommunications Inc.; the Delaware Valley Telephone Co., affiliated with General Telephone & Electronic of New Jersey; and the Continental Telephone Co. of New Jersey.

The Technological Hobbyist Conference (THC-79) will be held this year at the Diplomat Hotel in New York City on Sunday April 22, 1979 from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM EST. Pre-registration by mail is $5.00 and will be $7.00 at the door.

This fee is needed to pay the costs of renting the ballroom, renting PA's, projectors, etc. If you can't make it to THC-79, you can still get a supporting registration for $3.00.

This entitles you to receive any junk that gets put on our Freebee Table. Supporting Registrations may be upgraded at the door for only the additional $2.00.

Otherwise it's 7 bucks at the door. Dealer tables will be available for those wishing to sell their technological goodie but be forewarned that the people with those funny initials will be there too!

Dealer tables are $20.00. Registration materials will be held at the door so be sure to use a recognizable name. For more details see TAP #53. Please make all checks payable to TAP.

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TAP, 152 W. 42 ST, ROOM 418, NY 10036

Raymond Allen Williams, 31, is an escape artist all right, but he does have a certain flair. Williams, a convicted car thief, escaped from the honor farm at Leavenworth federal prison in Kansas the other day, driving off in a pickup truck he had cadged from the motor pool. He dumped the truck in Kansas City, 30 miles away, and, with some money he had saved, rented a limousine service as a reference, Williams rented a suite of hotel rooms for himself and his driver and put all costs on the tab. He lived high for a couple of days, then went to the Tulsa Airport and bought a twin-engine private plane on credit and hired a pilot to fly him to Dallas. By that time, the FBI was on his trail, and he was arrested in Dallas. Despite his escapade, Williams won an accolade from one FBI agent. "You have to like his style," he said.

"I've been brought to your attention that you retired from here in 1948. I just want to know where you get the nerve to draw a company pension for 30 years."