I. As an early advocate for the possibility of
having an effect on the psychological aspects of
behavior, Dr. Watson was enthusiastic about the possibility of
research which would study the effects of behavior modification
on humans. He believed that this type of research could provide
insights into the mechanisms of behavior and could lead to
practical applications in the treatment of various psychological
problems. He proposed the use of positive and negative
reinforcement to study the effects of rewarding and punishing
responses in humans.

2. During the course of the conversation, it was noticed that
Dr. Watson was particularly interested in the possibility of
research in which the effects of punishment on behavior could be
studied. He suggested that this could be achieved by using
experiments with animals. He believed that such experiments
would provide valuable insights into the mechanisms of
teaching and learning.

3. The chief of the research division, who had previously
warned Dr. Watson about the risks of conducting experiments on
humans, was not familiar with Dr. Watson's work. He was, however,
interested in exploring the possibilities of using
behavioral techniques with humans. He then asked for available
textbooks on the topic.

4. After discussing the potential risks and benefits of
conducting such experiments, the chief of the research division
decided to allocate resources for a pilot study. He agreed to
review the available literature on the topic and to discuss the
feasibility of conducting experiments with humans.
is attached and it is requested that as much experience on the
obtained as soon as possible.

This list was described in the 1. 'by 1951 conference
between

b. He has agreed to tell no one of the plans until we advise
him otherwise.

c. It appears that this plan might provide the framework for
a continuing inexpensive and completely confidential
research operation.

5. Although this office does not have access to the scientific data
necessary to evaluate the effect of these drugs, it should be pointed out
that tabulated tabulated bioassay publications (so far unreported) are concerned
with the determination of the possibility of the permanent ill effects of
these drugs in human subjects. It is hoped that the pharmacological
properties of these drugs have been well defined and that some evidence
is available on their experimental use on animals.

6. In this connection, please refer to the earlier discussion
regarding the potential of hallucination (see previous report). The
source of this information was the tardy (from the New York staff
(isolated and used as a written encyclopedia on experimental frumol
medicines). A copy of this report (the substance of which has not been
called to the attention) it might be better if other drugs were
considered along with hallucinogen in case the latter proves too dangerous.

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