



## HOW DO WE LOSE OUR MEMORY ??

No person really knows how much he or she remembers! Just close your eyes and try to recall everything you have ever seen. All the people, all the houses, all the streets, all the objects you have ever looked at, and all the words and numbers you have ever learned. There seems to be no end to it. In our brain there is a visual memory center where these millions of impressions are stored away, as neatly as in a good photographic library. We cannot yet explain how this miracle of filing away takes place. But we do know that it takes place in an orderly manner, according to subjects. Because of this orderly arrangement, it is possible for one section to be injured or destroyed without harming other sections.

For example, a person may have a brain drain injury or a haemorrhage and have his storehouse of certain memories wiped out. He may have "forgotten" how to use words, but he may still be able to use numbers! Sometimes people have a "memory blindness" because of old age or an injury that prevents them from recognizing objects they see. They may look at a ball and not know what it is. But if they touch it, they are able to recognize it, because they are not depending on their visual storehouse of memory.

Our brain also has an auditory memory center. Here are stored all the sounds we remember, just as if it were a vast library of gramophone records. A person may also suffer from amnesia. This is usually caused by a state of great anxiety, and it makes a person forget certain associations which, unconsciously, he does not want to remember. When people with amnesia are treated, these associations can be restored and their memory may come back to normal.