Summary

The tonal audiometry has a great diagnostic value, no matter what the hearing ability of the impaired ear is.

The speech audiometry was to make up for that deficiency, but it only indicates the percentage of clearness. That percentage concerns the phonetically balanced list of words, with regard to speech tonality. In case of the perception of a severe hard-of-hearing patient, the audiometry will not indicate whether the patient will be able to understand words of one frequency range a hundred percent, and not even a word from another frequency range.

While the pure tone sweep test of hearing is non physiological because isolated pure tones are being made use of, and because the test is a static one (the stimuli do not come in salvos as they do in speech), the hearing test by means of logotomes in the verbotonal audiometry satisfies the physiological requirement of hearing: the stimulus is a human voice to which the ear is adapted. That stimulus represents a complex tone that meets the requirement of the stimulus extensity (the size of the stimulated surface).

The stimulus is formed in structures which both in arrangement of tones and length of time are adequate to the hearing habit, the structures that formed the system of hearing. The stimulus has the rise in stimulus which normally exists in speech and according to which the differential ear sensitiveness has been formed.

The change in velocity of the increased stimulus does not lead to a change in the threshold of hearing, but leads to a change in differentiating two intensities. In a more rapid rise in intensity of stimulus the differential sensitiveness rises, hearing being a differentiation of change in signals which we separate from homogeneous background. Differential sensitivity must have an influence on intelligibility, on demasking sound signals in the sound fund which
in nature constitute a uniform basis. The relation between intensity, time and the size of the stimulated surface, which are necessary in stimulating any sensory analyzer, is in this case harmonized with physiological relations, and the result, therefore, is closest to the actual state of hearing.

Key words: verbo tonal method, audiometry