

ARTS

Software opened

By F.W. Cameron

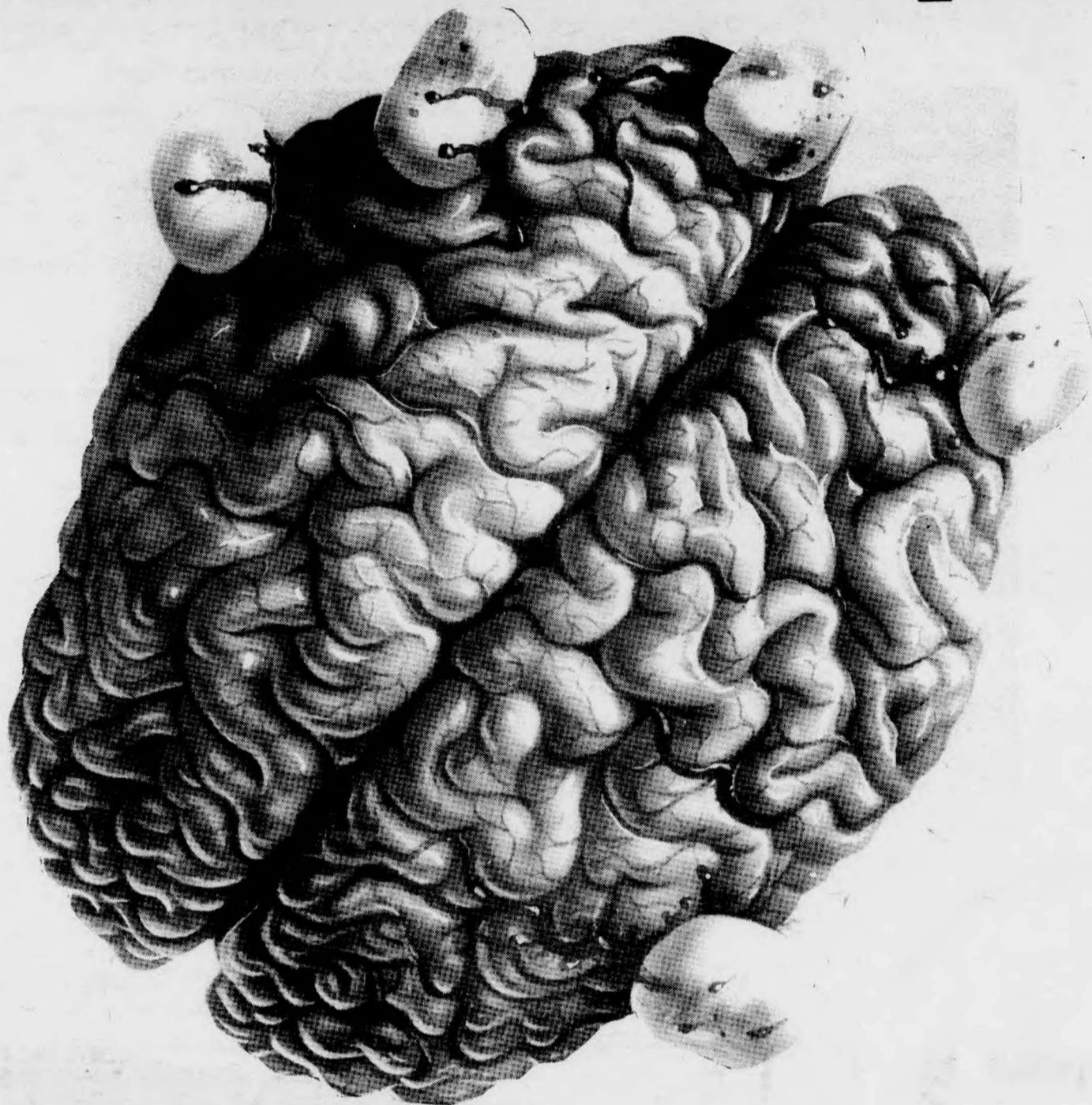
Dear Diary:

Captains Log, March 16 and 17: I am here at the WORLD OF COMPUTER GAMES show being held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The show is concentrating on software for different machines. *Nintendo* game cartridges outnumber any other systems' software. That's not surprising, but then, there aren't many surprises at this show.

Nintendo games by the thousands... and I still can't figure out the popularity of the 8-bit system, when there are faster, more complex games with better graphics on the 16-bit *Turbografx* and *Sega Genesis*. *Nintendo* seems to be limited to the scroll and shoot arcade games, which after this much time is becoming tedious. The only *Nintendo* game which really impressed me was "The Immortal."

This game pushes the 8-bit system to the limits. It is a typical scroll and shoot adventure game, but the graphics are impressive, considering what the programmers had to work with. I would like to say more about the background of the *Nintendo* games, but there was no literature available, other than reading the boxes.

Onto the new wave in game dedicated systems, the 16-bit machines. I'll be honest, I can't tell the difference between a screen from the *Sega Genesis* from a screen from the *Turbografx*. They both have excellent resolution and use of colors. Both systems play like arcade machines and were great fun for the few seconds I got to play them at the show. The only complaint I heard from owners of both systems is that there isn't yet a huge variety of games, and the games are more expensive than the *Nintendo* games.



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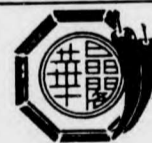
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