

based on formulas known at present, do not seem to indicate the development of very large amounts of power. They are for the most part adopting a "watchfully waiting" attitude.

NEW MECHANICAL LARYNX HELPS DUMB TO SPEAK

Three mutes, deprived of their voices as an unavoidable result of operations for cancer of the throat, spoke distinctly and clearly before an audience of medical men, using an artificial larynx, invented by Dr. John E. Mackenty of New York.

Sufferers from cancer of the throat have heretofore been able to save their lives only at the expense of their voices, for the radical operation necessary in such cases necessitates the destruction of the vocal apparatus, and after recovery the patients must breathe through an opening in the neck. The new device is strapped over this opening, and receives air which it sets into vibrations similar to those caused by the natural vocal cords. This vibrating column of air is carried to the mouth by a small tube, and there modified into human speech by the lips and tongue. The result differs from ordinary speech mainly in that it is a monotone.

The new device, according to Dr. Mackenty, represents practically a philanthropic contribution to mankind. There are so few persons who require it, and the possible sales are so far between, that his efforts to interest manufacturers to develop the idea met with no response. Finally, executives of the laboratories maintained by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Western Electric company decided to undertake the work, even though no certain return of their expense was in sight. Using the knowledge of human speech acquired in their telephonic studies scientists of these laboratories have now produced a device which will enable many unfortunate people to talk again.

Not only will the artificial larynx add to its users' happiness and earning power, but it will remove one barrier to the proper treatment of cancer of the throat. In the early stages of the disease, when a radical operation offers a practical certainty of cure, sufferers have often hesitated because they dreaded the loss of their voices. Delay, even while trying other treatments, has usually allowed the disease to progress to a point where cure is impossible. With the fear of future silence removed, Dr. Mackenty believes that sufferers no longer will risk their lives, but will have the cancerous tissues removed and do their talking with an artificial larynx.

ANARCHY IN THE HUMAN BODY

By Dr. Edwin E. Slosson.

The human system is ordinarily a well ordered empire. The numerous organs and innumerable cells carry out their diverse duties in close cooperation due the subordination to the central powers. If the body is attacked, say, by the cut of a knife or an army of microbes, the blood cells hasten to fill up the breach in the wall or to overpower the invading host. Because of the vigilance and well regulated activity of the cells, the ravages of wounds and disease may be staved off for seventy years or longer. And physicians have found that they can aid the