

a temporary incapacity on the part of Greece. The full cooperation of the Greek Government, however, will guarantee that no fancy prices will be set upon either land or buildings.

It is anticipated that such excavations will continue for not less than fifty years. The splendid opportunity is clear at once. Such excavations, conducted in the scientific manner guaranteed by the experience and obligations of the American School of Athens, will train two generations of visiting professors and resident graduate fellows and students. The amount of enthusiasm which will be brought back by the persons who have had some months or a year or two at Athens, will soon be reflected in a livelier and more appreciative attitude on the part of the students in this country.

VOICE SAVING POOR ECONOMY

"Speech should be taught as a physical exercise - as a sitting up, looking at, breathing deep exercise," is the opinion of John P. Opdycke, of New York, who surveys the language situation in America and makes a plea for better treatment of voices and words, in a forthcoming issue of American Speech.

Mr. Opdycke finds that laziness is the cause of most of the shortcomings in children's speech; and he recommends that the physical training department in the average junior and senior high school should work actively in cooperation with the English department in making alert, clear-thinking speakers of the students.

The English teacher's fight against speech laziness is bound to be a hard one, he points out, so long as business men talk around cigars and women mumble and swallow their voices. But the fight is worth while, because a good voice is one of the greatest personal, professional, and business assets that a school can furnish to its students.

"Every teacher of English should be obliged to qualify for the teaching of oral English simultaneously with his qualifying as a teacher of 'written' English" Mr. Opdycke declares.

CANCER HEREDITY DEFENDED BY DR. SLYE

A staunch defense for the inheritability of cancer was put up by Dr. Maud Slye of the University of Chicago, in a recent address. She rapped what she calls the fundamentalists in science who, while they concede the value of her long series of experiments on cancer susceptibility and resistance in mice, doubt the possibility of a similar application of the same laws to the human species.

The possibility of cancer inheritance in humans cannot be dismissed, she said, because of the haphazard matings of man. The chance mating of two hybrid carriers of any given recessive, such as cancer has proved to be in mice, is almost certain to occur sooner or later. When it does the recessive character appears in the children. This accounts for its sudden appearance when there has been no known

known case of cancer in the family for two or more generations.

The attempt to settle the question of inheritability of cancer by means of statistics is absurd, she maintained, because it cannot be discovered which are really resistant and which are resistant themselves but have the power to transmit susceptibility to their children. Only by selective breeding and analysis with the right number and right kind of hybrid crosses in the laboratory can definite data be obtained to prove or disprove the hereditary tendencies of cancer.

"The great difficulty in studying human heredity," Dr. Slye said, "is that man is so long lived an animal that no one individual can collect accurate data for three generations. But this does not mean that there are no heredity facts unbrokenly expressing themselves in the human species just as they do in other animals of a shorter life span, whose exact records are being taken. If we would establish permanent recorded periodic examinations of each living individual and permanent recorded accurate necropsy findings of all dead, in three generations we would have valuable scientific data."

ANTI-EVOLUTION LAW MENACES STATE'S SCHOOLS

Tennessee's anti-evolution law after being in force for nearly a year, has had a serious effect upon the schools of the state, according to Judge John R. Neal, member of the counsel who last summer defended John T. Scopes at the celebrated Dayton trial. The appeal of the verdict against Mr. Scopes on the grounds of the alleged unconstitutionality of the law is still pending before the Tennessee supreme court, and will probably be heard in May.

Judge Neal made the following statement through Science Service:

"The appalling effect of the anti-evolution law in Tennessee is written in the anxious faces of every science teacher in the high schools, and the state university. At least to these individuals it has ceased to be a joke and become a terrifying reality, for the following reasons:

"In the first place immediately after the passage of the law the text-book commission of the state, of which the governor is the head, either deleted the science text-books of all reference to evolution or selected new science books of an inferior character because they contained no reference to evolution. The teachers were informed that unless they made sole use of these inferior text-books they would be dismissed and prosecuted under the anti-evolution law.

"Second, I have been informed by numerous science teachers that almost every recitation has become a trying ordeal on account of the necessity of avoiding the questions either asked innocently or designedly by the students the proper answer to which would lead to a discussion of evolution.

"Thirdly, The public announcement of boards of education and superintendents of public instruction that no teachers of science will be employed or retained who do not satisfy them that they will not only not teach evolution but that they do not believe in evolution. As a result many timid teachers are becoming fearful of discussing scientific subjects even in private conversations.