develop the disease while the other escaped unharmed.

If this predisposition toward developing tuberculosis is really a matter of heredity, then we would expect to find that whenever one identical twin had the disease the other would be pretty sure to get it also. On the other hand, we would expect it to be less likely that non-identical twins, or fraternal twins not having exactly the same heredity, would both develop the trouble.

A German physician, Privatdozent von Verschuer, member of the Kaiser Wilhelm-Institut fur Anthropologie und Eugenik in Dahlem, has just checked up this very point and reported the results he found to the Berlin Medical Society. He found 75 pairs of twins, one or both of whom had tuberculosis. Of the 75, 19 pairs were identical while the others were fraternal twins. The age varied from 1 to 57 years.

Here are his startling figures: Of the 19 sets of identical twins, only 2 had one healthy member, and those two were under 18 years of age. In several cases the twins had been separated and had grown up in entirely different surroundings, but they were affected by tuberculosis in almost exactly the same way.

Contrasted with this record is that of the fraternal twins. Of the 56 pairs who did not have the same heredity although born at the same time, 24 pairs had healthy members, and in only 12 pairs were both twins affected in exactly the same manner by the tubercular infection.

Science News Letter, December 27, 1930

ARCHAEOLOGY

Garlands Buried 3,000 Years Check Egypt's Calendar

GARLANDS of flowers tied across the breast of a dead Egyptian queen on a November day in the year 1049 B. C. have lain there for centuries in token of the respect and honor paid to an Egyptian royalty. Now, the flowers have found a strange, modern usefulness. They have served to reassure modern science that its efforts to match Egypt's calendar with our own chronology are accurate.

The mummy of the flower-decked queen, Meryet-Amun, was one of those discovered by the Egyptian Expedition of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The expedition awaited a time when Prof. Percy E. Newberry of the Egyptian University in Cairo might identify the flowers. Now, the director of the expedition, H. W. Winlock, has reported to the Museum here that Prof. Newberry's examination has been made, with some singularly interesting results.

Faint Color Remained

"Such was the marvelous preservation of the flowers that some of them still retained a faint flush of color in their faded petals," Mr. Winlock writes. "Prof. Newberry could point out, without any question, blossoms of the acacia, petals of the lotus and of the red field poppy, and leaves of the willow."

A date marked on the wrappings of Meryet-Amun's mummy was translated into our calendar as approximately November 25, 1049 B.C. And Prof. Newberry pronounced that all of the flowers and leaves belonged to that season. The acacia tree blooms after the Nile flood has receded, late in November, and the willow is then in leaf. The poppies were probably garden flowers, he pointed out, for wild poppies blossom in the grain field in March, but garden poppies might bloom in Egypt almost any time.

Additional evidence that the method of reading the date on the mummy fitted the season of the year was found in some persea fruits, half-ripe, laid at the foot of the coffin. These would have been just beginning to ripen in Thebes in November.

Meryet-Amun herself was already four hundred years dead when the floral tribute was placed on her breast. Her tomb was one of those rifled by robbers, and when Egyptian tomb officials eventually opened it four centuries after her death they set about repairing the damage. Hence the new mummy wrappings, the new date, the garlands.

All that was glittering or precious was gone from the tomb when the tomb officials found it. The robbers had even stolen the artificial eyes and eyebrows off the mummy-shaped coffin, and the sheets of gold which sheathed the coffin inside and out. The tomb officials replaced the costly material originally used for the eyes and brows with a cheap glass. They had, it seems, only a day to make their repairs.

Meryet-Amun was the middle-aged wife of a boy king Amen-hotpe II, when she died. Her mummy has been added to the collections of the Cairo Museum, where many ancient Egyptian royalties now rest in safety and in retirement from public inspection.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1931

FLOWERS OF A QUEEN

Blossoms of acacia, petals of the lotus and of the red field poppy, and leaves of the willow, found adorning the mummy of Queen Meryet-Amun.

BIOLOGY

Magnetism Heals Mutilated Flatworms

MAGNETISM as a healing agency was suggested many years ago, but was seized upon and exploited by quacks to such an extent that it fell into complete disrepute. Now, however, comes a reputable scientist who has apparently been able to do something of the kind with a strong magnetic field, at least with lower organisms.

Prof. R. A. Muttkowski, of the University of Detroit, told the American Association for the Advancement of Science how he has exposed mutilated flatworms to the influence of a powerful electromagnet, and found that they regrew their lost body-parts more rapidly than did untreated "control" specimens. Too much of a good thing, however, proved harmful.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1931