

He followed the development of cancer in along family tree of mice, all descended from one original parent stock. After a long period of inbreeding there were two strains of mice, one of which was one hundred per cent susceptible to cancer, whereas the other was much more resistant.

This has no direct bearing on cancer in man, said Dr. Strong, because such inbreeding of cancerous persons, as it is done artificially in the laboratory, is not likely to happen among human beings.

PAINTED POTTERY THOUGHT TO BE 10,000 YEARS OLD.

Excavation of the sites of Sumerian civilization which preceded the Babylonian point to the human occupation of the Mesopotamian valley long before the date of 4,000 B.C., assigned to the creation of the world by the marginal notes of the Bible. The magnificent palace of the Sumerians which was discovered at Kish has now been completely excavated by the joint expedition of Oxford University, England, and the Field Museum, Chicago. Beneath the original floor of bricks of the main court, which from their shape cannot date much later than 3,000 B.C. were found several feet of deposits which take back human occupation on this site for a very considerable period of time. It has been suggested

by one authority that they must date at somewhere between 4,000 and 5,000 B.C. Many examples of Sumerian art of great significance for early culture were discovered and a great number of tablets of baked clay were found in a library mound. When examined we may perhaps learn to which race the Sumerian belonged - a question upon which there are at present conflicting views. According to some authorities they must have come from Central Asia. Others think from the highlands of Asia Minor or Armenia.

The work of the Kish Expedition in the coming season will be extended to Bughatait, a very ancient site sixteen miles from Kish where painted pottery of very early type, and inscribed tablets were found last year. Such pottery has been found in the lower strata of most of the oldest Sumerian sites in Mesopotamia, in the early stages of the culture of Susa excavated by the French expedition under de Morgan and by the American explorer on the neolithic site of his exploration at Anau in Turkestan, to which he assigned a date of 8000-9000 B.C. and it occurs at intervals across central Asia as far as northeastern China, where it has recently been discovered on a Neolithic site. If it were possible to determine the relative age of these different finds, it might afford a clue to the direction from which the Sumerians entered the country.

In addition the Kish Expedition will excavate the great temple of the Mother Goddess of Kish, situated near the Palace of Kish which was called Harsay Kalamma in an inscription discovered in the library mound last year. The interest of this excavation is great, especially as it will be remembered that it is probably in this temple that Sargon I (2750 B.C.) the great king who founded the kingdom of Akkad, was a ministrant to the Goddess before he became the leader of the revolutionary movement which overthrew the reigning monarch and brought Sargon himself to power.