

male criticisms on women's clothes. In Roman days, it was the men who put up with very inconvenient and hampering styles, and they went on wearing those togas for 800 years!

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Science News Letter, June 3, 1939

PUBLIC HEALTH

Infantile Paralysis In South Carolina

THE INFANTILE paralysis outbreak in South Carolina continues unabated while the rest of the nation is remarkably free from the dreaded childhood plague, latest reports to the U. S. Public Health Service indicate. The federal health service has had three officers investigating the outbreak and expects to send experts on infantile paralysis after-care to South Carolina as soon as possible.

During the week ended May 20 there were 28 cases of the ailment in South Carolina, most of them in and around Charleston. In the rest of the nation there were 15 cases scattered throughout nine states. The South Carolina outbreak has been building up since before Christmas, with a sudden increase during the first week in May. Normally health officials would expect about 19 cases of the disease in the entire country at this time of year.

No major outbreak of infantile paralysis has occurred since the summer of 1937. Health officials are unable to predict whether the South Carolina epidemic will remain local or will spread throughout the rest of the country this summer.

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Food products on the market are put up in 257 sizes of cans, but the U. S. Department of Agriculture has recommended reducing to 14 sizes.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

Greek Actor Could Escape Through Space of Single Tile

WHEN Greek playwright Aristophanes had a comic actor in his play "Wasps" try to climb through a roof where a single tile was out, he was not asking the impossible, Dr. David M. Robinson, Johns Hopkins University archaeologist, has discovered.

Excavating the Greek city of Olynthos, he has found flat-pan roof tiles as big as 22 by 18 inches. Experimenting for himself, he reports that a thin man could "make it" escaping through the gap of one tile, allowing for the setting of the tile in roof construction.

Another puzzle in stage directions of ancient classic drama is also cleared up by finding that in one Olynthos mansion a character could hide in a storeroom, unnoticed by a woman coming downstairs into the front of the room, as required in a comedy plot by Menander. The storeroom in this house is below the level of the entrance.

The ten-room house shedding light on Greek stage settings is named the "Villa of Many Colors" by its discoverers, because the walls were gay with blue, white, yellow, red, and burnt orange surface and molded stucco designs.

The home of a Greek fighter and wild

game hunter is another discovery of the latest expedition to Olynthos, which Dr. Robinson directed in association with Dr. George E. Mylonas of the Washington University of St. Louis. The excavations were under auspices of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. The hunter's nine-room house contained an arsenal of big knives, a sword blade, shield, twelve slingstones of lead, and spear and arrow heads. Bones of wild animals were in the house when it was burned in the wild conflagration that swept the city when Philip of Macedon destroyed Olynthos in 348 B. C.

Olynthians were a hybrid group. This is the verdict of the expedition anthropologist, John L. Angel. The men were fairly tall, women almost short. Burials excavated show that the "average Olynthian probably had a medium head, not very high, with a low wide face and wide unimpressive nose and a strong jaw." Mr. Angel adds that this average man's teeth were good and he lived to no great age.

The complete skeleton of a small ancient horse like those immortalized in the Parthenon frieze at Athens is another discovery from the Olynthos cemetery.

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PHYSICS

Super Cyclotron Planned As Largest Is Finished

WHILE final touches are being applied to the most powerful atom smasher in the world at the University of California, Prof. E. O. Lawrence, inventor of the cyclotron, is already at work planning for a super machine that will create atomic particles having energies of 100,000,000 electron volts.

The new giant cyclotron weighs 225 tons and will create 21,000,000 electron volt particles. The one in Prof. Lawrence's mind would weigh about 2,000 tons. In size this cyclotron would be 35 feet long, 25 feet high and 15 feet wide. While designed for 100,000,000 electron volt alpha particles (nuclei of helium atoms) it is conceivable that consider-

ably higher energy particles could be obtained from it.

The record size of the 225-ton Berkeley cyclotron will last only for a short time for it is being duplicated now in Japan and an even larger one, weighing 300 tons, is under construction at Manchester, England.

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A committee of women who are teachers or students of Hebrew plan to replace the "random vocabulary" now taught in study of this language with a vocabulary dealing with the daily life and religious interests of Jewish people.