

2. I have taken strains riddled with cancer and by the type of breeding tests described in my published work have eliminated the disease absolutely from the strain and its hybrids.

3. A mass of data still unpublished shows that these things can be done not only with cancer in general, but also with cancer of specific organs and of specific types.

The persistent criticism of my "unorthodox" results in *color transmission* in this hallowed cross between an albino and a house-mouse only serves to confuse the issue with regard to the question of cancer inheritance; and if Dr. Little wishes to criticize my cancer work further, in the interests of logic I ask him to do so on the lines of my cancer work and not on the basis of color transmission.

II

It is impossible to agree with Dr. Little that any reference to "the great laws of heredity" must necessarily refer only to Mendel's laws, since every student of genetics knows that there is a vast array of facts of heredity which by no possible compression can be forced within the limits of these laws. Especially does every worker with the coat colors of mice know this fact. Perhaps an amendment may in time be added to those theories now supposed by Dr. Little to be a closed issue like the Koran.

III

The publication of my results in color transmission will be attended to in due time. These data belong with a mass of facts collected in the study of the inheritability of coat pattern. It would be impossible to get this material in form for immediate publication without seriously neglecting experiments now under way in the study of cancer.

MAUD SLYE

THE OTTO S. A. SPRAGUE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

A MOLLUSK INJURIOUS TO GARDEN VEGETABLES

DURING the past summer a small slug or *Limax* was noted to be injuring garden vegetables of several kinds. It seemed rather large for the common *Agriolimax agrestis* (Linné)

and specimens were submitted to Dr. H. A. Pilsbry for an opinion. They were found to be this species. Both underground vegetables and the leaves of the plants were attacked. In Canandaigua they were observed to attack potatoes, the mollusk frequently eating a hole in the tuber as large as its own body. As many as a dozen potatoes were observed to be thus eaten. In the same garden this slug attacked the string beans, eating into the full pods and consuming the beans. In Rochester, a garden was examined in which the potatoes were affected in the same manner as those at Canandaigua. In Syracuse, this slug was observed in cauliflower, in company with the smaller black slug, *Agriolimax campestris* (Binney). Some lettuce was also eaten by these mollusks. It is probable that this slug (*agrestis*) may become a pest in some localities.

Agriolimax agrestis is very abundant about Syracuse, in the east end, the hill portion, where one may see dozens of the slugs crawling on the sidewalk after a rain in a manner similar to the earthworms. This is particularly true on Euclid Avenue, where the morainic hills border the sidewalk on the south side. This brown slug as well as its smaller black relative is abundant in the woods and fields in and around Syracuse.

FRANK COLLINS BAKER

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF FORESTRY,
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

La Science Française. Librairie Larousse, Paris, 1915. 2 Vols. Pp. 396 and 403. Illustrated with portraits.

The dominance of German science during our generation seems to have been rather generally accepted, a principal cause of which is clearly seen in efficiency of organization essentially military in its nature. With attention now focused upon German efficiency, it is possible to discern certain elements of this success which before had been obscure. The systematic German mind, with its pertinacity and indefatigability of purpose, has found one of its expressions in the preparation of exhaus-