

New York University. The question of which persons cancer will claim for its victims seems, according to Dr. Bernstein's theory, to depend on much the same sort of factors that determine which persons will develop hay fever or other allergic diseases. As in hay fever some persons have an inherited tendency to become susceptible or hypersensitive to such factors as pollens or dust, so in cancer, Dr. Bernstein suggests, some persons have a hereditary tendency to become hypersensitive to external irritation. Hay fever, even in those who inherit the tendency to it, does not usually develop until several years after birth. Physicians believe its development depends on the extent of exposure to the irritating pollen or dust. In cancer Dr. Bernstein says the interval before the malignant condition develops in those inheriting a susceptibility to it is determined by genetic factors—factors present in the body's make-up at birth. During this interval the body is acquiring its special sensitivity to the irritating factors that lead to the development of cancer. Cancer may be a hereditary allergic disease with a genetically determined time interval of acquired hypersensitiveness to external irritation.

In another decade the words used in teaching science in elementary and high schools will be more extensive and richer than the simple vocabularies that have become pedagogically fashionable during the past few years, Dr. Otis W. Caldwell, general secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and long a leader in science education, predicted to the American Science Teachers Association. Science text-books of twenty or

thirty years ago were prepared by scientific experts who did not realize the need of non-technical language in science teaching. As a result, educational experts studied the words used by children of various ages and science material for school use was written in the common and meager vocabulary of people who are not far ahead of mere literacy. Now it is necessary to rise from this low level and give the best students and teachers vocabularies which shall grow as rapidly as their new thoughts and experiences. Science instruction that will be coherent and cumulative throughout the pupil's whole school training from first grade through high school will be achieved in the next decade. And teachers will be well trained in knowledge of the science they teach as well as in education methods upon which most emphasis has been laid in recent years.

THE guilt of causing the sudden and remarkable radio fade-outs discovered in 1935 by Dr. J. H. Dellinger, National Bureau of Standards radio chief, was fastened upon bright eruptions of the sun by research reported by Dr. R. S. Richardson, of the Mt. Wilson Observatory of the Carnegie Institution. In the past two years eighteen fade-outs of high-frequency radio transmission affecting the daylight side of the earth for a few minutes have coincided closely with bright solar eruptions observed near sunspots. But some eruptions are not followed by the fade-outs and Dr. Richardson therefore suggests that the condition of the earth's upper atmosphere, as well as the radiant energy of the sunspot, may be a factor in determining the occurrence of a fade-out.

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