

spend in continuing my education.... The time spent in ascertaining how much the student has learned often exceeds that spent in helping him learn more.... You cannot have intellectual fellowship when one party is trying to cram education down the neck of the other.

Summary

A supervised study plan for teaching general chemistry has been described. Data have been given which show that this method is probably superior to the usual method in that less failures result, and the whole class gains a better knowledge of the subject in less time.

Tropic Sunlight as Treatment for Tuberculosis Investigated. Whether tropical sunlight is more effective in treating tuberculosis than the sunlight of northern climates will be investigated by scientists under the auspices of the Light Research Committee of the American Sanatorium Tuberculosis Association, it has been announced by Dr. Edgar Mayer, chairman of the committee. Dr. Mayer has just returned from the West Indies, where he has made arrangements for sunlight investigations with physicians in Porto Rico, Jamaica, and Trinidad.

Groups of physicists, chemists, and clinicians are being organized at various points in the United States and other countries, and these will conduct studies of sunlight for a period of about two years, Dr. Mayer stated.

"We expect to measure the spectral limits of sunlight in various climates, and to determine what spectral bands are best suited for the treatment of tuberculosis," he explained. "Animal experimentation will take the form of developing localized forms of the disease in test animals, and observing the action of sunlight.

"Our studies may also result in combating more successfully tuberculosis which is prevalent in the West Indies, in spite of abundant sunlight. The negroes of the islands, who suffer from it particularly, call the malady 'repentance disease,' because it often kills them in about two months, and they consider they are allowed about that time in which to repent for their sins.

"They appear to be particularly susceptible because of a diet which lacks vitamins. Moreover, many of the negroes work only two or three days a week and keep out of the sunlight as much as possible. They fear fresh air more than they do disease and often sleep seven or eight in a room, even plugging the keyhole at night to keep out the night air."

The tuberculosis death rate in many cities of the West Indies, Dr. Mayer said, was five times what it is in New York.—*Science Service*

Gold and Silver Plates "Photograph" Slow Electrons. The use of plates of gold, silver, copper, and zinc to record slowly moving electrons, instead of the usual photographic plates, was described at the recent meeting of the American Physical Society. Dr. Percy H. Carr, of Cornell University, told the physicists that when these electrons moving at what are even slow speeds, for them, strike the surface of some metals, they leave their mark. This effect is evident when the metal is exposed to certain metals. In studying the way in which electrons are bent in a magnetic field, Dr. Carr aimed them at a sheet of gold, for instance. Afterward, the gold was held over hot mercury, and the vapor combined with the gold in the places that had not been struck by electrons. The lines then appeared dark against a gray background. Other metals were used. For these slow electrons the method is superior to photographic plates.—*Science Service*