the type cheerfully lives in the aquarium, feeding on mosquito larvæ and little tadpoles. Who will find a second specimen?

DAVID STARR JORDAN.

QUOTATIONS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

THERE is grumbling all the time on account of the continually increasing demands of the Department of Agriculture. For the fiscal year 1897–98 its appropriation was $3,182,902. For the current year the appropriation is $5,478,160, and the department will cost $6,229,880 next year.

Although the amount spent by the department is large, other countries are expending proportionately more each year for the same purposes. The latest obtainable figures, as given in a recent report from the senate committee on agriculture and forestry, show these to be the appropriations of several foreign countries for the encouragement of agriculture:

France	$ 9,020,000
Austria	9,275,000
Hungary	9,400,000
Russia	25,280,000
Japan	3,750,000

In order that these figures may mean something, the committee has calculated the amount spent by each nation, including the United States, for each acre of tillable land and for each person in the agricultural population. These figures are:

EXPENDITURE PER ACRE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND.

	Cents.
France	9.8
Austria	13.3
Hungary	12.4
Russia (about)	4
United States	1.3

EXPENDITURE PER CAPITA OF AGRICULTURAL POPULATION.

	Cents.
France	52
Austria	69
Hungary	90
United States	35

Russia, with an area of 8,660,395 square miles, maintains 102 experiment stations, or one to every 84,906 square miles. The United States, with 3,692,125 square miles, has sixty experiment stations, or one to every 61,535 square miles. The other extreme is reached with Belgium, where, in a country containing 11,373 square miles, fifteen experiment stations, or one to every 758 square miles of territory, are maintained. Germany and France maintain a station for every 3,000 square miles of their territory, roughly. In no section of the United States are there as many stations in proportion to the land surface as there are in Germany and France. In the states on the Atlantic seaboard there is one station to every 24,000 square miles of land. Texas, with one federal experiment station, is 27 per cent. larger than all of France and Germany, with their 151 stations. The ratio of experiment stations to area in France and Germany is 96 to 1 as compared with Texas, 28 to 1 as compared with Minnesota and the Dakotas, and 39 to 1 as compared with our Pacific states.

The quarrel that the public has with the Department of Agriculture does not hinge on the amount of its annual appropriation. There has never been any disposition to treat it in a niggardly fashion, but the impression is general that great sums of money are wasted on frivolous enterprises.

The free distribution of seeds is the most notorious of the improper expenditures of which the system is guilty, and the amount of money involved in this is about the same as the annual increase in the appropriation granted by congress. The Weather Bureau, which costs the department $1,330,000 a year, is pretty generally laughed at now.

If the department devotes itself to its legitimate business, and accomplishes its functions properly, it will not be hampered by any lack of funds.—The N. Y. *Sun*.

JAMES HYATT.

DR. JAMES HYATT died at Bangall, N. Y., on February 27, in the eighty-seventh year of his age. He was one of the earliest members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, also a member of the New York Lyceum of Natural History, now the Academy of Sciences, and one of the founders of the Torrey Botanical Club. With him

passes away one of the last representatives of the early pioneers in scientific work in old New York. To the labors of this group of men, among whom were Professors Wood and Torrey, we owe many of our privileges to-day in the scientific world. Dr. Hyatt averaged during the years between 1860 and 1870 twenty lectures a week in sixteen schools and colleges, besides holding the chair of chemistry and toxicology in the Woman's Medical College. He was the author of 'First Lessons in Chemistry,' published in 1839, and 'The Elements of Chemistry,' published in 1856. At the time of his death he was a volunteer observer of the Weather Bureau. It is well that we honor the memory of these pioneers. It was they who fostered the spirit of learning and the love for science when the humanities alone were thought worthy of the attention of those who sought education. To their labors and their foresight we owe our great scientific societies and associations which exercise so potent an influence on the thought and activities of the educational world of to-day.

John J. Schoonhoven.

HANS HERMANN BEHR.

There died in San Francisco, March 6, 1904, Dr. Hans Hermann Behr, in his eighty-sixth year. His work belonged to the preceding generation; for though the brightness of his intellect was undimmed to the last, yet the feebleness of his body prevented his doing scientific work during the last years of his life, when his position as curator of the Entomological Department of the California Academy of Sciences gave him leisure. His large and valuable collection of lepidoptera is in the possession of the California Academy of Sciences and contains, besides his own types of California insects, duplicates of the types of Xantus and Boisduval and others. The collection is cosmopolitan and is probably the most complete collection of Californian lepidoptera in existence. He attended the universities of Halle and Würtzburg, but took his degree from the University of Berlin. He numbered among his friends some of the leading scientific men of the age, Alexander von Humboldt, Virchow, Schlechtendahl, Naumann, Garmar, Ferdinand von Mueller, Dr. Hillebrand, Louis Agassiz, Max Müller and others.

For many years he was professor of botany at the California College of Pharmacy and he wrote two little books on the 'Flora of San Francisco' to assist the students. The 'Introduction' to the earliest 'Local Flora' shows that he was abreast if not ahead of his time, and also gives an original outline of the system of classification showing a complete grasp of the orders of plants that is very rare. He kept no record or copies of his publications, and it would be a work taking some time to unearth them from the German and American periodicals where they appeared.

He was a many-sided man, wrote German poems of beauty and genuine feeling, wrote a story of life in the Philippine Islands which was published in the *Atlantic Monthly,* and a novel of life in California published in a German magazine. He understood every language of Europe. Greek and Latin were about as familiar to him as English and he could quote from the classics indefinitely. He was a purist in the formation of scientific terms, and such words as 'cotype' and a genitive like 'Salmonorum' aroused his contempt and wrath. During his early manhood he was a deep student of Sanscrit and he learned Hebrew when a boy. He was one of the early members of the now famous Bohemian Club of San Francisco. The papers which he wrote for the amusement of the club have been lately collected and published under the title of 'The Hoot of the Owl,' to amuse and charm every one with their quaint and original humor.

Alice Eastwood.

California Academy of Sciences.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

President Carroll D. Wright has decided not to call a spring meeting of the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in view of the fact that there seems to be no business of sufficient urgency to warrant it.

Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the Rockefeller Institute, New York, has been elected