four years ago to compile a dictionary which should in some way serve, not only to fill the wants just pointed out, but also as a guide to appropriate names for new forms. A further use for such a list is suggested by a foreign term used in a recent government publication, and also *in another sense* in a somewhat earlier private paper by another writer.

The undersigned now wishes to appeal to all those interested in the advancement of the study of geomorphology, to aid in the preparation of this dictionary—already over three hundred terms have been catalogued—by sending to him the following data for any topographic term, in any language, which may be met with in the course of study or reading:

1. The new term, and the inventor or first user of it in the given sense.
2. The etymology of the term, if possible.
3. The publication, volume, page and year, where first used.
4. The original definition, preferably *quoted.*
5. The cited examples of the form or combination of forms to which the inventor, or first user, applied it.

The above need not be written on catalogue cards, but preferably should be typewritten. The latter is not at all a prime requisite, however.

Of course the contributors to the work will be given full credit for the aid they render. Letters should be addressed to

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AMŒBÆ FOR THE LABORATORY.

To the Editor of Science: Just at this season many teachers of zoology are looking for Amœbæ for their students, and as I remember well the difficulty that is often experienced in securing them in considerable numbers and of good size, I venture to give a very simple method of obtaining them which I hit upon accidentally two years ago and have found highly satisfactory ever since; it is quite possible that this method is in use by others and it may be that it has been recorded, but if so it has escaped my notice. Two years ago while examining some insect eggs which were attached to the lily-pads on a pond on my summer place, I noticed numerous amœbæ. So I suggested to my laboratory assistant the following autumn that he get a considerable number of lily-pads and remove the slime which adheres to the under surface with a spatula and put it in a shallow glass aquarium containing water six or eight centimeters deep. This he did, placing the vessel near a window, and in a week or two the amœbæ were very large and abundant on the surface of the sediment at the bottom of the aquarium. We followed the same method this year with equally satisfactory results, so that I believe it to be as reliable as it is simple, and I would strongly recommend it to any one who has had trouble in securing this useful animal.

A. W. Weysse.
Boston University.

DO RHIZOPODS DIE A NATURAL DEATH?

To the Editor of Science: In various works on zoology and geology statements like the following are usually found, and, so far as I know, have never been questioned: '* * * in the oceans Globigerinæ live in countless numbers. Dying, their shells accumulate to form thick layers on the ocean bottom.'

We know that as a rule protozoa do not die a natural death, as that term is used in reference to higher animals. They subdivide and we have two protozoa, these subdivide and there are four, and so on to the end of time. The fact that Globigerinæ protect themselves with a shell which consists of a series of chambers does not prevent them from withdrawing from their shell for purposes of conjugation and reproduction somewhat as do the diatoms. I would be very much obliged if some reader of Science who has studied the habits of rhizopods would answer the question, given above, in the correspondence department of your journal.

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BODY TEMPERATURE.

To the Editor of Science: In Science for September 9, Mr. Woods Hutchinson requests references to articles dealing with body temperature. If he has not already seen the vol-