of fishes from Yucatan, we stated that *Heros affinis* and *Heros urophthalmus* had apparently been reported previously only from Lake Peten, Guatemala. In some unaccountable manner we overlooked, at the time of writing our paper, the report by Evermann and Goldsborough,[2] published in 1902, upon fishes collected in Mexico and Central America. Dr. Evermann has kindly called my attention to the fact that the species mentioned were both obtained in Yucatan by Mr. E. W. Nelson, as recorded in the paper referred to. It so happens that Mr. Nelson had specimens from exactly the same places that I obtained them, namely, *H. affinis* at Progreso and *H. urophthalmus* at Progreso and at Chichen-Itza. Some of my specimens apparently came even from the same watering trough at the latter place, but I was successful in obtaining them directly from both the Great and Sacred Cenotes as well.

In the same connection it is interesting to note that "Mr. Nelson heard that cat-fish occur in a well [cenote] at Chichen-Itza, but did not see any specimens" (*loc. cit.*, p. 138). From the Sacred Cenote I obtained two specimens of one species of catfish, and from another cenote, some three or four miles to the eastward, eleven examples of another. Both of these appeared to be new, and have been described and figured by Mr. Barbour and myself as *Rhamdia sacrificii* and *Rhamdia depressa*, respectively.

One would not have suspected the presence of these catfishes in the Sacred Cenote, as they were at no time seen swimming about. The two specimens described were obtained for me by the Indians, upon hooks baited and sunk to the bottom. At the other cenote mentioned, however, the catfish were much in evidence, swimming about in a large school near the surface. As Mr. Nelson probably did not visit this cenote, these facts may explain why he did not see catfish at Chichen-Itza. I do not understand, however, why he did not see the mojarras (*Heros urophthalmus*) in the cenotes when he was there in February, as I saw them commonly during the whole period of my stay from February 13 to April 9. Furthermore, I found that they were not especially difficult to catch, in spite of the fact that I had to resort to boyhood's method of using a bent pin for the purpose, not having suitable hooks at hand.

It would be interesting to know whether there is any basis for the belief of the natives that the fish disappear from these cenotes during certain seasons, as it would furnish evidence as to the existence of the supposed underground connection of these curious water-holes. On the one hand, unless there are such connections, it seems hard to account for the apparently general distribution of *Heros urophthalmus* throughout the peninsula (unless we take into account the possible assistance of human agency); while, on the other hand, the segregation of two species of catfish in two cenotes only three or four miles apart is difficult to explain if there do exist subterranean connections of any considerable size.

Leon J. Cole

Pisces," *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, Vol. 50, No. 5, pp. 146–159, pls. 1 and 2, 1906.

[2] Evermann, B. W., and E. L. Goldsborough, "A report on fishes collected in Mexico and Central America, with notes and descriptions of five new species," Bull. U. S. Fish Com. for 1901, pp. 137–159, 1902.

Occurrence of the Fresh-Water Medusa, Limnocodium, in the United States

On August 17, the writer received at the laboratory of the Bureau of Fisheries, Woods Holl, a few medusæ with the request for their identification. They had been sent from Washington on the fifteenth in a small bottle and were living when received and continued to live for more than a week, though gradually declining.

A cursory examination showed them to be a species of the fresh water medusa, *Limnocodium*, the occurrence of which in considerable number in Regents Park, London, in 1880 marked our first accurate knowledge concerning a medusa of this habitat. It was described by both Allman and Lankester, and its characteristics and something of its life history critically observed.

Great interest was aroused at the time, chiefly by reason of the then regarded anomalousness of its habitat, but also by reason of certain other features more or less peculiar, such as the apparent absence of female medusæ, and yet the occurrence of young apparently arising directly from eggs.

It has since been observed in several other localities and under a similar set of conditions, namely, in artificial tanks, or aquaria used for the cultivation of the large water lily, *Victoria regia,* a native of South America. Records of such occurrence have been made at Lyons and at Munich, in 1901 and 1905 respectively. In all these cases it has appeared and behaved in very much the same way as in London, and the same anomalous disparity of sex has been noted.

The discovery of the medusa, apparently the same species, though on this point I am not yet prepared to state definitely, in this country is naturally, therefore, a matter of some interest to students of animal distribution, and it is the hope of the writer that additional facts bearing upon several of the problems as yet unsolved may be secured. It was a matter of pleasure, therefore, to undertake, with the cooperation of the Bureau of Fisheries, to secure all the data and material which could be had. Thus far only a beginning has been made, and this preliminary notice is only intended to announce the general facts, reserving for a later contribution a fuller and more detailed account of the history of its occurrence. It may be noted in closing that, as in former cases, only male medusæ have been observed. And, furthermore, that no foreign plants have been introduced in these aquaria for several years, and that the *Victoria regia* has never been grown here.

P. S.—A communication was received by the writer dated September 30, stating that the medusæ had suddenly "disappeared as mysteriously as they came," and that not a single specimen could be found where for weeks they had been abundant.

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September 20, 1907

GAMBUSIA IN NEW JERSEY

PROFESSOR JOHN B. SMITH has called attention to the introduction of *Gambusia affinis* in New Jersey waters as a check to the development of the mosquito, as neither he nor his assistants have met with it in their investigations. It was, therefore, with considerable interest that quite recently Messrs. H. Walker Hand and O. H. Brown assisted me in finding this little minnow in large numbers in Teal's Branch of Pond Creek, a small tributary of Delaware Bay at Higbee's Beach. We also found it very abundant in New England Creek, another tributary of Delaware Bay just north. There it was associated with large numbers of mostly young or small *Fundulus heteroclitus macrolepidotus, Lucania parva, Cyprinodon variegatus, Menidia menidia notata, Eupomotis gibbosus* and *Palæmonetes vulgaris.* The streams mentioned are mainly brackish, though fresh near their headwaters, more or less shallow with muddy bottoms, though with even a clear and gentle current. The males of *Gambusia* were equally abundant with the females, though the latter were usually larger. The occurrence of *Plethodon erythronotus* at Higbee's Beach is also interesting.

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COLOR SPORTS AMONG THE INSECTS

IN the August 16 number of SCIENCE Mr. A. Franklin Shull puts on record the occurrence of a pink katydid, *Amblycorypha oblongifolia* DeG., which was taken near Detroit, Mich., on August 12, and he invites others to place on record their captures of similarly colored insects. Professor J. B. Smith has, in years past, taken several pink katydids in the pine barrens of southern New Jersey, and on August 1 of the current year I took a male specimen of the above species at Lahaway, Ocean County, New Jersey. None of Professor Smith's specimens retained their delicate color more than a few weeks at most and the Lahaway example lost most of its pink color in about two weeks, though the head, pronotum, wing veins and parts of the legs are up to this date still a decided pink. The