of Cladodontidæ *Cladodus striatus*. As the name *striatus* was preoccupied, having been applied by Agassiz to a species of *Cladodus* from the Devonian, I suggest that the new species be named *Cladodus compressus*. The following is the original description.

Cladodus compressus

Teeth of medium size, base of type specimen 14 mm. wide by about 5 mm. long, tooth broader than high. Outline of base subelliptical, extremities subangular, posterior border with stronger convexity than anterior; under surface smooth, upper surface with a narrow furrow just behind the cones running parallel with the posterior margin of the base, a strong ridge between this furrow and the posterior margin. Middle cone low, broad and thin near base, twice as broad as thick, with sharp cutting edges; outer lateral denticles broad, thin, and very low, one third to one fourth height of median cone; between lateral denticles and median cone a high narrow ridge that bears two minute denticles on one side of the median cone but none on the other side in the type specimen; median cone and lateral denticles all marked with almost vertical, narrow, sharp-crested ridges; spaces between ridges about twice as broad as ridges.

C. compressus differs from *C. euglyphæus*, the nearest allied species, in its much larger size, much greater breadth of median cone, greater breadth and less height of outer lateral denticles, smaller number of lateral denticles, high ridge between outer denticles and main cone, and in the greater approximation of the ridges on the teeth.

Formation and Locality—Salem limestone, Paynter's Hill, Ind.

Type specimen No. 7709—1 American Museum of Natural History.

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THE TERM "THERM"

To the Editor of Science: I have noted in the recent issues of Science discussions in regard to the use of the term "Therm" as a simple way of expressing 1 million gram calories.

While this old term used in a new sense may simplify an expression, it, however, to my mind makes it more complicated as far as its actual meaning is concerned.

The trend to-day in all scientific matters, and primarily it is the object of research, is to bring all phenomena and facts down to a common basis of understanding so that as far as possible one can tell at a glance what the subject is about.

The arbitrary use of a term without the sanction or adoption by the majority of persons or countries engaged in research of the kind to which the term is to be applied, tends more to confuse than to simplify matters.

I am heartily in accord with the suggestion for the term kilo-calorie, mega-calorie, etc., made by A. T. Jones in Science of January 3, 1908.

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SPECIAL ARTICLES

NOTES ON THE OCCURRENCE OF THE RECENTLY DESCRIBED GEM MINERAL, BENITOITE

During the course of the writer's investigations in the Coalinga oil field, Fresno County, California, the past summer, he was accorded the opportunity of examining the mine from which the new gem mineral, benitoite, is obtained. At the time Dr. Louderback[1] described the mineral, he had examined only a limited amount of material and had had no opportunity of visiting the type locality. The following notes on the field relations of the gem are therefore offered as an addendum to his paper. The writer wishes to extend his thanks to the owners of the mine, Messrs. R. H. Dallas and L. B. Hawkins, the latter one of the discoverers of the mineral, for permission to visit the mine, for the gift of a representative series of specimens, and for other courtesies.

Benitoite, according to Louderback and

[1] "Benitoite, a New California Gem Mineral," by George Davis Louderback, with chemical analyses by Walter C. Blasdale: *Bull. Dept. Geol., Univ. Calif.*, Vol. V., No. 9, pp. 149–153, July, 1907.