

INJECTIONS OF THE BUNDLE OF HIS

A SENSE of justice and the firm conviction that publicity can alone correct similar errors prompt me to speak in behalf of my former associate, Dr. Lhamon. The following statement is supplementary to a short foot-note accompanying a paper by M. R. King in the *American Journal of Anatomy* for 1916.

In August, 1911, my former teacher and colleague, Professor W. G. MacCallum, accompanied by Dr. K. M. Vogel, paid a friendly visit to my laboratory in the presence of my former colleague, Professor Zinsser. During this visit Professor MacCallum showed keen interest in, and appreciation of, some specimens of bovine and sheep hearts in which the sheath of the sino-ventricular bundle had been injected with India ink, etc., by my former associate, Dr. Lhamon. Dr. MacCallum inquired especially after the method of injection because he considered it of probable use in connection with demonstrations on pathological human hearts.

Under date of October 24, 1911, Dr. B. S. Oppenheimer, then fellow in pathology with Professor MacCallum, wrote me, saying:

Dr. MacCallum, in whose department I am doing heart work, told me that you had a method of demonstrating beautifully the auricular-ventricular system by injecting certain substances with a hypodermic syringe. It would save me a great deal of time if I could use such a method in my examination of pathological hearts, etc.

I replied to this letter, briefly explaining Dr. Lhamon's method, referred Dr. Oppenheimer to Dr. Lhamon, giving the latter's address, and added that Dr. Lhamon's article was to appear in the *American Journal of Anatomy*.

In the *Proceedings of the New York Pathological Society*, New Series, Vol. XI., Nos. 5 and 6, pages 130-132, 1911, Dr. Alfred Einstein Cohen, fellow in pathology with Professor MacCallum during 1910-11 and a friend and predecessor of Dr. Oppenheimer, is officially reported to have given a "demonstration of ox hearts showing injection of the conductive system." In discussing this paper Dr. Oppenheimer is officially reported as having said:

After hearing of the method through Dr. MacCallum I injected a few hearts of ungulates with India ink and water, etc. (*l. c.*, p. 131).

Since according to the official published reports Professor MacCallum was then president of the society he can no doubt testify to the accuracy of the facts reported there if these were in question.

In a personal letter written to me at his own initiative on January 5, 1915, Dr. Cohen admits responsibility for the publication of the above report, but pleads that he acknowledged Lhamon's priority—two years after having anticipated Lhamon's work by his own publication. Dr. Cohen further pleads that this report can not be regarded in the light of a publication, although the *Transactions of the New York Pathological Society* are published regularly, received by several libraries and are listed in the Index catalogue and the Index Medicus, etc. Dr. Cohen adds that hence "neither Dr. MacCallum nor I can be held responsible for an indiscretion."

Dr. Cohen also says in this letter that it is stated, furthermore, in Dr. Oppenheimer's discussion that both of us (Drs. Cohen and Oppenheimer) had heard of A-V. bundle from Dr. MacCallum.

As a matter of fact Dr. Oppenheimer is officially reported as having said that

After hearing of this method through Dr. MacCallum I (not *we*, as Dr. Cohen would have it), injected a few hearts of ungulates with India ink diluted with water, etc." (*l. c.*, p. 131).

Although Dr. Cohen frankly admits having heard of Dr. Lhamon's work and stated in a personal letter written four years later "that so far as priority is concerned not only I but every one acquainted with the subject gives and has given full credit to Lhamon" he nevertheless claims "that an injection of the right side of the heart was made and published for the first time by me." This false claim was made by Dr. Cohen in 1915 in spite of the fact that Lhamon three years before (*Am. Jr. Anat.*, Vol. 13, 1912, p. 63) stated that "with the sheath system in the right ventricle similar results were obtained, etc." That is,

Dr. Cohen frankly admits that he heard of Lhamon's work and that Dr. Lhamon is given priority by everybody including himself and then claims priority for himself for the right side of the heart! As a matter of fact Lhamon's specimens showing injections on both sides, which are still in this laboratory, and which were described in his paper, were made over half a year before Dr. Cohen heard of how they were made through Drs. MacCallum and Oppenheimer.

Dr. Lhamon's manuscript on "The Sheath of the Sino-ventricular Bundle" which is still on file, was finished on July 22, 1911, and officially accepted for publication in the *American Journal of Anatomy* on November 3 of the same year. Because Dr. Lhamon had left the United States to accept an assistant professorship in the Philippine Medical School in August, 1911, a clerical error in the address caused a delay of several months in the return of the manuscript to the publishers. Hence the article did not appear till March, 1912, three months after Dr. Cohen's publication.

It is significant that there also is internal evidence in Dr. Cohen's report and in Dr. Oppenheimer's discussion which clearly betrays the origin of their ideas. But comment upon this is unnecessary and I make this statement of the facts only in the interests of truth and in justice to Dr. Lhamon and this laboratory.

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THE PISTILLATE SPIKELET IN *ZEa* MAYS

HUNT¹ makes the statement that in the pistillate spikelet in *Zea Mays*, each spikelet is two flowered, the lower one being abortive. Our most recent work on the grasses, by Hitchcock² contains a similar statement, as do all of the other botanical text-books examined which treat of this subject. The prevailing idea seems to be that the pistillate spikelet in this species never contains more than one well-developed flower.

¹ "Cereals in America," p. 147, Orange Judd Company, 1904.

² "A Text-book of Grasses," p. 161, The Macmillan Company, 1914.

I had occasion some time ago to prepare material of corn spikelets for a class in systematic botany, and as I was growing the Country Gentleman variety of corn in my garden at the time, I used this. I was unable, however, to find any indication of the sterile flower in many of the spikelets, which led to closer observation. I soon discovered that some of the spikelets had two well-developed flowers inside each pair of glumes, and that others had but one such flower and another one partially developed. All gradations occurred in the same ear between spikelets with but one well-developed flower and those which had two.

Those who are familiar with this variety of corn will probably remember that the grains are irregularly arranged on the cob in many places, and that they do not always occur in regular rows as is commonly the case in corn. This irregularity is probably due to the fact that the development of the second flower in many of the spikelets tends to throw some of the grains out of alignment.

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A REMARKABLE FLIGHT OF CADDIS FLIES AND CHIRONOMIDS

ON the evening of September 8, 1909, while the writer was crossing the upper part of Currituck Sound, N. C., the air seemed filled with flying insects. They were so numerous over the water that vision was restricted to a much shorter radius than usual. The constant impacts of the insects against the face became annoying, the more so that they maintained their frequency throughout the six-mile sail across the sound.

Early the next morning I boarded the small steamer *Comet*, which had come from many miles down the Sound during the night. On this boat there was plentiful evidence of the swarm of insects. There was a layer of insects between the glass cover and the poster, concealing the print in every one of the framed shipping regulations and notices of various kinds about the steamer. How the