

fixation processes. He was offered unusual opportunities for studying the chemical industries, especially those whose development has resulted from the European war. He also visited the clay deposits and the tin and tin concentration works at Cornwall, England.

PROFESSOR VERNON L. KELLOGG, of Stanford University, continues his work of overseeing the feeding of the Belgian people for another six months. This gives him a year and a half of this work as first assistant to his Stanford colleague, Herbert Clark Hoover.

DR. G. H. A. CLOWES, director of the Gratiwick Research Laboratory, spoke on "Colloidal Equilibrium" at the meeting of the Indiana Section of the American Chemical Society on December 8. Dr. Wilder D. Bancroft will address the Indiana Section on March 9, and Dr. E. V. McCollum on May 11.

DR. IRA N. HOLLIS, president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, visited the University of Illinois last week, to give an address to the faculty and students in the college of engineering, on the subject of "The Relation of Efficiency to Democracy."

PROFESSOR DOUGLAS W. JOHNSON, of Columbia University, addressed the American Philosophical Society on January 5, on the subject, "The Strategic Geography of the Balkan Campaign."

THE death has occurred at his home in New Rochelle, N. Y., of Henry Gordon Stott, past president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He was born in the Orkney Islands in 1866.

ROBERDEAU BUCHANNAN, computer in the U. S. Naval Observatory from 1879 to 1910, the author of works on mathematics, astronomy and genealogy, died on December 18, at the age of seventy-seven years.

THE REV. BROTHER CHRYSOSTOM (Joseph J. Conlen), professor of philosophy and psychology at Manhattan College, died on January 24, aged fifty-four years.

MR. JUAN J. RODRIGUEZ, of Guatemala City, Guatemala, died on December 22, aged seventy-five years. Mr. Rodriguez for many years

studied and collected the fauna of Guatemala, and was well known to naturalists as the discoverer of many new and interesting species.

MR. WILLIAM MARRIOT, for forty-three years assistant secretary of the British Meteorological Society and for thirty years editor of the *Meteorological Record*, died on December 28, at the age of sixty-eight years.

SIR EDWARD BURNETT TYLOR, Hon. D.C.L., M.A., formerly keeper of the Oxford University Museum, professor and reader in anthropology and professor emeritus, died at Wellington, Somerset, on January 2.

CAPTAIN F. C. SELOUS, known for his zoological explorations in Africa, has been killed in action in East Africa, aged sixty-five years.

SIR E. B. TYLOR, professor emeritus of anthropology in the University of Oxford, distinguished for his publications in ethnology, died on January 2, at the age of eighty-four years.

DR. J. LITTLE, Regius professor of physics, Dublin University, has died in his eightieth year.

DR. B. R. POPPIUS, the Finnish entomologist, died on November 27 at the age of forty years.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

A BILL has been introduced into the state legislature of Arkansas providing a half-mill tax for the University of Arkansas. The bill has been recommended by the trustees of the university and approved by the governor.

Two industrial fellowships for the chemistry of indiarubber have been established in the University of Akron, provided by the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company and the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. These fellowships are of the value of \$300, and the holder may subsequently enter the employ of the company.

THE building of the Hunterian Laboratory of the Johns Hopkins Medical School, completed at the cost of \$115,000, has now been opened. According to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, the building is connected by tunnels with the medical school and

the physiological building. On the first floor are the medical library and the department of art as applied to medicine. Work at the laboratory is directed by a committee of professors and instructors of the medical school. Dr. Milton C. Winternitz is chairman of the committee, and has a laboratory on the fourth floor. The second floor has been leased to the Carnegie Embryological Institute. The third floor will be devoted to work in clinical medicine and children's diseases and the fourth floor to the pathological department.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

NOTICE OF POSSIBLE SUSPENSION OF THE RULES OF NOMENCLATURE IN THE CASES OF *HOLOTHURIA* 1758 VS. *PHYSALIA* 1801, AND *BOHADSCHIA* 1833 VS. *HOLOTHURIA* 1791

IN accordance with the requirements prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology, notice to the zoological profession is hereby given that on or about October 1, 1917, the undersigned proposes to recommend to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature that the rules be suspended in the following cases:

Holothuria Linn., 1758 (type *physalis*), vs. *Physalia* Lamarck, 1801 (type *pelagica*). The effect of suspension will be to retain *Physalia* as generic name for the Portuguese man of war.

Bohadschia Jaeger, 1833, vs. *Holothuria* Bruguière, 1791. The effect of the suspension will be to retain *Holothuria* for the sea cucumbers.

The motion for suspension includes the following points:

1. Suspend the rules in the case of the generic names in question;
2. Permanently reject *Holothuria* 1758, type *physalis*;
3. Validate *Physalia* 1801, type *pelagica* (syn. *physalis* 1758);
4. Accept *Holothuria* as dating from Bruguière, 1791, despite the existence of *Holothuria* 1758 (if rejected);
5. Said suspension is not to be construed as invalidating any specific name.

The grounds advanced for suspension will be:

- (a) A strict application of the rules in these

cases will result in greater confusion than uniformity, because

(b) The cases involve a transfer of generic names, almost universally accepted in the sense given above since 1791 (for *Holothuria*) and since 1801 (for *Physalia*), to genera in other groups in connection with which they have been used by only a very few authors during more than 100 years.

The undersigned cordially invites zoologists to communicate, not later than September 1, 1917, to him or to any other member of the commission, either their approval or disapproval of the proposed action.

C. W. STILES,

Secretary to Commission

DO THE FOWLER'S TOAD AND THE AMERICAN TOAD INTERBREED?

NOTING a communication under "Discussion and Correspondence" on pages 463 and 464, of the September 29, 1916, issue of SCIENCE, as regards the song of *Bufo fowleri* Putn., I would say that in over fifteen years of experience as observer and student of Amphibians, I have never been able *positively* to trace the clear, trilled song, lasting from 10 to 30 seconds, to any but the American toad, *Bufo americanus* Le Conte. In any large collection of both species, where both occur together, there are individuals which seem to combine the external characteristics of both species. In the study collection of the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, there are, for instance, a number of toads which at first glance would be identified as *Bufo americanus*. They have the large kidney-shaped parotoids, divergent cranial crests, spotted belly of *B. americanus*, but also the short, abrupt profile, proportionally narrow head, and much finer texture of skin, especially that of the belly, of *B. fowleri*. The color pattern alone can not always be relied upon, as *B. americanus* often has the narrow median pale line, the distinct black spots arranged in longitudinal rows, sometimes confluent, and the peculiar greenish gray ground color, of *B. fowleri*, and vice versa, *B. fowleri* has sometimes the reddish brown ground color, with indistinct vertebral streak and but few