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 Portugese 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