

made precisely the same observations on the behavior of colonies of the same species of harvestmen (Phalangidæ) in the neighborhood of Austin, Texas. These colonies are not uncommon, nesting in masses on the lower surfaces of overhanging rocks along the canyons of the Colorado River and its tributaries and in the Edwards Plateau region. The colony described by Newman was unusually large, as I do not recall seeing any that were much more than a foot or a foot and a half in diameter and comprising, perhaps, between two and three hundred individuals. The rhythmic, simultaneous, up and down movement of the creatures on their long sensitive legs, when disturbed, is very striking. Merely approaching the spot where the Phalangids are congregated is sufficient to set the whole assemblage vibrating. The stimulus in this case is probably the air-current produced by the sudden approach of the observer and is probably propagated, as Newman suggests, by contact among the interlaced legs. In many cases of synchronic behavior, however, other stimuli must be assumed. In fireflies the initiation of the simultaneous flashes must be due to optic stimuli, as it is in people endeavoring to keep in step with one another, but the continuation of the established rhythm would seem to depend on a kind of "Einfühlung." Such is undoubtedly the impression produced on one who witnesses the rapid wheeling movements of a herd of prong-horned antelopes on our western plains or the flight of certain birds. Some years ago I observed that pelicans flying in single file over the Bay of Panama exhibited a very pronounced synchronism in the beat of their wings. In this case I was led to assume that after the members of a flock had established the synchronism, probably by visual stimuli, it was kept up by a fine sense of rhythm on the part of each individual.

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MORE COMPLETE TITLES

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: When the student of the structure or the functions of animals needs to consult the literature dealing

with any form on which he has worked, he meets at the outset with the difficulty that a large number of papers to which he turns fail to show in their titles the names of the animals that were used.

In view of this familiar, but none the less unfortunate, state of affairs, I wish to inquire through your columns whether there is any valid objection to the suggestion that authors in some way incorporate in their titles the names of the animals used for their investigations.

In some cases common names would answer, but more often the binomial Latin form would be required. In the case of little known forms, and especially in the case of insects, it would be of great help if the family or order were also given.

Should there be no serious obstacle to the step here suggested, the improvement could easily be inaugurated by the concerted action of the editorial boards of our several biological journals and those heads of departments and bureaus through whose hands forthcoming manuscripts naturally pass.

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THE WISTAR INSTITUTE,
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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Milk and Its Hygienic Relations. By JANET E. LANE-CLAYPON, M.D., D.Sc. Longmans, Green & Co. 1916.

This admirable book has been published under the direction of the Medical Research Committee (National Health Insurance, England). The chief aim of the author "is to present a survey of the existing knowledge upon such aspects of the milk question as hitherto has been inaccessible or difficult to obtain by most of those desiring it."

The scope of the book includes a consideration of the composition, "biological properties," and cellular content of milk; the nutritive value of raw, boiled and dried milk; the presence of organisms liable to cause disease, and milk-borne epidemics; the sanitary production of milk, types of bacteria, methods of