Moulton that he has gone over the old formulæ used and has found that the computer introduced the factor $\cos\phi$ erroneously into the N.–S. computation.

The N.–S. ratio should therefore have been $\frac{.523}{.7363} = .710$, which oddly enough is exactly equal to the E.–W. ratio.

The new observations point to a value of about .69 for both E.–W. and N.–S. ratios.

A. A. Michelson,
Henry G. Gale

The University of Chicago,
September 10, 1919

AN UNUSUAL MIRAGE

Most people are probably familiar with the type of mirage often seen over paved streets on still hot days. In its simplest and most common form one appears to see merely a wetted portion of the pavement some distance ahead. In more striking cases this assumes the appearance of a pool of water in which buildings, trees and vehicles are seen reflected. As is well known this is due to the presence just above the pavement of a layer of air which being warmer than that above it is lighter and hence has a lower index of refraction than the air a little distance from the surface of the earth. These mirages are oftenest seen in mid-afternoon, and when motoring through the country such a pool often appears to continually recede and thus remains in sight for a long time. Recently while traveling from San Francisco to Portland with Professor W. C. Morgan we encountered such a mirage under rather unusual conditions.

The section of the Pacific Highway which traverses the Sacramento valley being paved with cement and under a hot sun is an ideal place for such mirages which had been visible much of the afternoon. Just after dusk (about nine o'clock) a car with powerful lights came over a slight rise a mile or so ahead. A moment later the lights of a second car appeared some distance in front of the first as though the driver had just turned them on. These lights were about half as brilliant as those of the first car and the impression was that two cars were approaching—a small one followed by a larger one. The large car was seen to gradually overtake the small one until finally the two sets of lights coalesced and a minute later we met and passed—a single car. "I thought there were two of them," said Dr. Morgan. So did I. We had seen a mirage at night.

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QUOTATIONS

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

A review of the work of the Rochefeller Foundation in various countries during 1918 by the president, Mr. George E. Vincent, shows that its activities extended literally from China to Peru. The foundation has shown practical interest in advanced medical education in hygiene in two ways. In the first place it has by gifts for building, equipment, and maintenance, rendered possible the opening last October of the school of hygiene and public health at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. In the second place it has, since 1915, followed the policy of granting a number of international fellowships and scholarships to students from foreign countries and American missionaries at home on leave. In 1918 there were 68 fellowships and scholarships distributed as follows: Brazilian physicians 3, Chinese graduate physicians 11, Chinese undergraduate medical students (formerly students of the Harvard Medical School of China) 10, Chinese pharmacists 3, Chinese nurses 6, medical missionaries on furlough 26, candidates under consideration for the new schools at Peking and Shanghai 9. The International Health Board has adopted a system of "study leave," by which members of its staff of medical officers, now nearly 60 in number, may, under favorable conditions of salary, pursue at the expense of the board special courses in public health at leading American or foreign institutions. In this way the equivalent of additional graduate fellowships has been created. Provision was also made for the bringing to the United States French medical men for special train-