

the expressions *constant form* (frequent in Mendels paper) and *inconstant form*.

The proposed terms are simple, easily remembered and not spoiled by previous functioning in the literature of plant or animal breeding. They imply nothing as to the origin of the zygote, thus eliminating any possible suggestion that homozygous individuals necessarily arise from pure-breeding and heterozygous ones only from mixed breeding. The word constant conveys the valuable impression that there is a dependability in the germ cell formation of the homozygote, but it will be necessary to give warning that the word inconstant is not meant to suggest complete lawlessness in the breeding results of the heterozygote. However the word heterozygote itself and all substitutes hitherto proposed are defective in that none of them gives a hint as to the law of gamete formation in heterozygotes. While *inconstant* is thus open to the objection that it might convey misinformation, it obviously emphasizes a point of essential importance to the breeder. Hybrid and other substitutes also require a word of explanation, since many hybrids are popularly supposed to breed true, but to retain such an impression would be worse than suggesting excessive irregularity. In short, the new terms if adopted would derive much of their value from the fact that a breeder will be quick to realize which kind of individual he wants in his herds or flocks and will thus be interested in knowing how the two types arise.

It is to be hoped that these two words or similar inoffensive ones will be accepted or at least not repudiated by professional geneticists. Some sort of agreement—either by common consent or by general indifference—will be necessary before the conscientious expounder may introduce the words to an audience without mentioning their technical equivalents.

Nothing in this note must be interpreted as a desire to displace homozygous and heterozygous or cognate forms from the technical literature.

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#### SOME PORT HUDSON OUTCROPS IN LOUISIANA

THE Port Hudson beds, so named by Hildgard from their exposure at Port Hudson, La., consist for the most part of beds of clays, usually bluish or black but occasionally yellowish in color. At Port Hudson, La., the type locality, the lower beds consist of black to bluish tenacious clay with frequent logs, stumps and fragments of wood, mostly cypress. At St. Francisville, La., nine miles northwest of Port Hudson, the black, cypress bearing clays outcrop at Black Hill, one half mile east of the town with the following section:

20–25 feet of loess.

4 feet of waxy black and brown tenacious clay with fragments and limbs of cypress, Port Hudson.

2 feet of massive gray and brown sands with scattering sub-angular chert pebbles, probably Lafayette.

The upper beds of the Port Hudson were evidently eroded before the deposition of the loess. The black clay lies unconformably on the Lafayette below with very sharp line of contact. Apparently the same black clay bed is to be seen in the bed of Scott Creek, near Laurel Hill, La., about 21 miles north of Port Hudson and 3 miles south of the La.-Miss. line. Evidently the lower Port Hudson beds in places underlie the western Florida parishes of Louisiana and probably also the adjacent southern counties of Mississippi.

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#### QUOTATIONS

##### THE RECOMPENSE OF SCIENTIFIC WORKERS

WE are very glad to hear that the Science Committee of the British Medical Association has elected a sub-committee to confer with the British Science Guild and other bodies "in the matter of the inadequate recognition and recompense by the government and other bodies of medical workers in the field of science." We are also glad that the Science Guild is nominating some of its members to confer with this sub-committee of the British Medical Association. The members are as follows: For the British Medical Association,