there has rarely been a man who so constantly sought the cooperation of all who could and would render him assistance. The "Origin of Species" is full of acknowledgements to his friends and correspondents, without whom he would have been comparatively helpless. From a close study of Darwin's life, we arise with the conviction that it is precisely the man of genius who should be the center of a cooperating group, and that it is through such cooperation that human knowledge, at least in the biological sciences, is chiefly advanced. To-day the adequate study of even a simple species of plant, as I have found in dealing with *Helianthus tuberosus,* requires not only a general botanist, but a plant physiologist, a taxonomist, a chemist, a soil physicist, an entomologist and others. Who is so versatile that he can perform all these functions? Yet our institutions are so constituted that each department stands by itself, and cooperation is no part of the regular program. We must not permit ourselves to be dictated to by persons who can not understand our aims or the conditions under which we must work, but the state has a right to demand efficiency. Are we sure ourselves, and can we convince others, that we are not overdoing our individualism? The world needs to be made wise and honest: can we afford to refuse to work together to this end?

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A CONVENIENT DEMONSTRATION MOUNTING FOR JELLYFISHES

THE writer has found the following method of mounting jellyfishes (Scyphozoa), both convenient and satisfactory besides permitting the observation of many structures usually only clearly seen when specimens are removed from the preserving jar.

Choose from the material on hand a jellyfish whose diameter is approximately that of a Petri dish in which it then may be placed, enough 4 per cent. formalin being added to cover the specimen. After the dish has been covered, it may be forced down in a mold of fresh plaster of Paris until the space between the upper and lower halves of it is sealed, and the top of the upper half is flush with the surface of the mold. When the mold has firmly set, any obscuring plaster of Paris may be scraped from the glass, or the mold itself suitably shaped up with a scalpel. Formalin solution condensing at any time on the upper lid may be displaced by manipulation.

Perhaps the most convenient molding frame is a paper box of a size adaptable to that of the Petri dish, although it may be of any shape. It is best to vaseline the interior of the box, in order that the hardened material may come away freely. With some care, a clean-cut looking mount may be secured. If desired, the plaster of Paris part may be given a coat of shellac, making it more durable from the laboratory standpoint. Data concerning the specimen may then be placed upon it with India ink.

It is seen that the above procedure is a modification of an old laboratory trick whereby odd bits of natural history specimens such as corals, sponges, specimens in vials, etc., may be given a convenient and useful mounting.

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ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION

AT its meeting on June 24, 1919, the "American Section of the proposed International Geophysical Union" passed the following motion:

Moved: That the members of the Section who go to the Brussels meeting be constituted a committee, with power to add to its membership, to consider permanent organization of the Section—the committee, after completing a plan for such organization, to report to a meeting of the Section, to be called at the discretion of the acting chairman of the Section, for the purpose of perfecting the permanent organization. *Adopted.*

The Brussels meeting referred to is that which was held from July 18 to July 28, 1919, to organize the International Research Council, and International Unions affiliated with it.

At this conference the International Geo-