

Buchner was apparently the first to use litmus media for bacteria, although the ophthalmologist Leber preceded him by three years, employing litmus gelatine to demonstrate acid production by *Aspergillus*.

Cahen, and not "Cohen (?)," published his paper in the *Journal* given, in the next volume to that cited. While the citation is not correct as to volume and page, still with the name and *Journal* given it hardly justifies characterization as "apparently altogether erroneous."

It thus appears that both of us have been to some extent guilty and the present note is therefore offered in mutual condonation.

The following list of *authentic references* prior to 1890 was supplied by Professor Novy and each has been confirmed by the undersigned.

Leber—*Berl. klin. Wchnschr.*, 1882, 19, 163.
H. Buchner—*Arch. f. Hyg.*, 1885, 3, pp. 417, 418, 419.

Marpmann—*Centralbl. f. d. allgemeine Gesundheitspflege; Ergänzungshefte*, 1885–1886, 2, Heft 2, p. 123. (The number appeared in 1886 but the title page of the volume bears date of 1889.)

Weisser—*Ztschr. f. Hyg.*, 1886, 1, p. 334.

Cahen—*Ibid.*, 1887, 2, pp. 387, 394.

Neisser—*Virchow's Archiv. f. pathol. Anat. u. Physiol.*, 1887, 110, p. 394.

Loeffler—*Berl. klin. Wchnschr.*, 1887, 24, pp. 610, 631.

Berhring—*Ztschr. f. Hyg.*, 1889, 6, p. 142; 7, pp. 173, 177.

Petruschky—*Centralbl. f. Bakteriolog.*, 1889, 6, pp. 628, 657.

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ANOTHER DRIFT BOTTLE WHICH CROSSED THE ATLANTIC

In a previous note¹ the writer gave the record of a bottle which drifted from the Gulf of Maine to the Azores. Recently record has

¹ "On a bottle which drifted from the Gulf of Maine to the Azores," *SCIENCE*, N. S., Vol. LIII., No. 1365, February 25, 1921. Through a misprint the writer's name was given as "James W. Moor" instead of "James W. Mavor."

been received of a bottle which was picked up in the Orkney Islands. This bottle, No. 230, was set out on the same day (August 29, 1919) as No. 198 which went to the Azores and was put out about 6½ miles to the southeast of it, i.e., 7½ miles southeast of Point Lepreaux in the Bay of Fundy. It was picked up on the Island of Papa Westray, one of the northwestern islands of the Orkney group, on January 21, 1921, about one year and five months after it was set out. This bottle probably followed the northern route of the North Atlantic wind drift ("Gulf Stream") as indicated for another bottle recorded previously.¹

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NEWSPAPER SCIENCE

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The recent press reports quoting me as saying that I had "obtained the closest approach to a perfect vacuum ever recorded" are false and without foundation. The daily press copied and added to an item in the *Utah Chronicle*, a student paper, which itself was inaccurate in saying I had "perfected the apparatus." The student reporter after seeing in the department of physics a well-known form of vacuum pump wrote the original article without submitting it to me before publication. I am taking this opportunity to deny the statements credited to me by the newspapers which have given me so much undesirable and distasteful publicity.

ORIN TUGMAN

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH,
April 8, 1921

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Atmospheric Pollution.¹ Sixth Report of the Committee for the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution.

(In *SCIENCE*, November 28, 1919, a summary of the fourth report of this committee, on the work in 1917–18, is given.)

¹ Meteorological Office. Report on Observations for year ending March 31, 1920, London, 1921.