

the trap or in the shark pool. Mr. Vinal Edwards tried to catch the ramora with a dip net whereupon, to our surprise, it swam quickly towards the shark's head and, with a peculiar twist of the tail, entered the posterior gill slit on the right side of the head and disappeared, presumably into the shark's mouth. It seems possible that the ramora made the trip from the trap in the same way. In this case therefore the shark offered free transportation, food and shelter, making him practically an ideal host.

REYNOLD A. SPAETH

WOODS HOLE, MASS.

A REMEDY FOR MANGE IN WHITE RATS

EVERYONE who has kept a colony of white rats under laboratory conditions has doubtless been confronted with the necessity of dealing with the mange-like skin disease which affects the edges of the ears, the nose, tail and the skin of the body. The organism is one of the species of *Notoedres*, the itch and scab mite.

The conventional remedy in this laboratory has been a mixture of sulfur and vaseline but I have had no success with it. Recently, Kennedy¹ reported the use of cedar oil for this disease but cautioned care because of its anesthetic properties.

I have had satisfactory results with a 2 per cent. solution of chloramine-T. The crusty scabs on the ears, tail and among the hair on the shoulders are rubbed vigorously with cotton soaked in the solution and usually yield to such daily treatment in less than a week. The peculiar long horny growths on the nose are best treated by cutting close with a sharp scissors and treating the resulting lesion daily with the antiseptic. Routine sterilization of cages is desirable in any case.

After surgical operations the rats often insist on removing the sutures with their teeth. Treatment of the wound twice daily with chloramine-T solution will give satisfactory closure in a very short time.

ARTHUR H. SMITH

SHEFFIELD LABORATORY OF PHYSIOLOGICAL
CHEMISTRY, YALE UNIVERSITY

¹ Kennedy, *SCIENCE*, N. S., 53,364, 1921.

QUOTATIONS

THE TECHNICIANS IN INDUSTRY

THE Society of Technical Engineers has just published a journal in which its position and policy are for the first time clearly defined. This society represents a movement of great interest, which has for some time been quietly advancing, but has attracted very little attention, either general or official. It has not escaped the notice of employers or of trade unions, who regard it with mingled feelings, and intelligent students of industrial affairs have carefully noted its rise; but since it has made no stir the public have heard nothing of it and official circles have turned a blind eye on it. Yet it marks a large change in the evolution of industry. The technicians, as represented by the Society of Technical Engineers, are not only engaged in industry, but are an essential factor in its largest branches, and one continually and rapidly advancing in importance with the development of applied science. More than any other element, they hold the key to the economic future in the field of practical operations. In a sense, this has been recognized by the immense amount of attention devoted to technical education in recent years. The backward state of technology in this country and the wonderful superiority of our industrial rivals were incessantly pressed upon British manufacturers before the war, but the importance attached to technical training was not extended to those who receive and apply it in practice. They have been taken for granted as part of the industrial apparatus. This was conspicuously shown during the war. Employers and labor leaders were constantly taken into council, and distinctions have been lavished on both, but the technicians, who had far more to do with the actual business of producing munitions than either, were wholly ignored. So, too, they are habitually overlooked in industrial inquiries, conferences, disputes and conciliation machinery. In the discussion of industrial relations and economic problems the old categories of Capital and Labour, never adequate and now quite out of date, are still