to the fresh mounts commonly used. The writer has found this damp chamber especially well adapted to the study of the relationship of fungous hyphæ to roots, both in the study of tropisms and in the actual observation of root-hair infections.

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THE COST OF GERMAN PUBLICATIONS

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Apropos of the cost of German publications to Americans, it may be interesting to note the cost of membership in the Deutsche Chemische Gesellschaft (including subscription to the *Berichte* and *Zentralblatt*) to Germans and to others. The figures are computed on to-day's exchange rate:

United States		$23.00
England	115 shillings	25.56
France	305 francs	25.28
Belgium	316 francs	24.74
Italy	536 lira	24.55
Norway	176 kroner	28.09
Sweden	104 kroner	27.14
Denmark	124 kroner	26.60
Holland	69 gulden	26.71
Switzerland	91 francs	17.47
Germany	370 marks	.81

It will be noted that Americans fare better than any other nationals except the Swiss. It might be added that in 1921 the subscription for Americans was $16.00.

But do the Germans expect us to believe that the disparity between the cost to themselves and to others is, as was stated by the president of the Gesellschaft, due to the low value of exchange?

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QUOTATIONS

SCIENCE AND THE TROPICS

FROM the late Mr. Chamberlain onwards, successive colonial secretaries have shown a far-sighted appreciation of what science may do for the tropics. The London School of Tropical Medicine, inaugurated and fostered by the Colonial Office, is now a world-center of research and education in the diseases prevalent in warm climates and the measures for resisting them. In another column Sir Arthur Shipley, now happily restored to economic zoology from his arduous and successful tenure of the vice-chancellorship of Cambridge, describes the work of the Imperial Bureau of Entomology, a product of a research committee appointed by the Marquess of Crewe when colonial secretary, and firmly established by the late Viscount Harcourt and Viscount Milner. Its local habitation is rightly placed at the Natural History Museum, which contains the finest collection of insects in the world. It is in close touch with every part of the empire, receives, examines, and identifies specimens sent to it, and acts as a general headquarters in the war against insects, whose successful prosecution is almost a condition of human existence. A third very practical application of science to the needs of the empire, due to the initiation of Viscount Milner when colonial secretary, applies specially to the tropics. A College for the Study of Tropical Agriculture is to open its first session at St. Augustine, Trinidad, this autumn. Last year we were able to welcome the constitution of a governing body to carry out the details of the scheme. Sir Arthur Shipley, chairman of the governors, and his distinguished colleagues have selected a competent staff and devised practical courses extending over three years for a diploma, and shorter periods for training in special subjects or for postgraduate research. The island of Trinidad has provided the site and a handsome grant towards the erection of the buildings, which are now complete. Private persons and commercial companies interested in tropical produce have made benefactions, and other West Indian islands are to contribute towards maintenance. But the benefits of the college in Trinidad will radiate far beyond the Antilles. The conditions of soil and climate which favor the luxuriant growth of tropical fruits, vegetable oils, rubber, and woods also favor the growth of animal and vegetable pests. Insects and moulds which no more than maintained existence in the jungle proliferate under the conditions of cultivation. Much can be done towards identifying and studying these in the museums and laboratories at home, and something also towards the devising of treatment.