

the excavated soil afterward returned. They were square, 3 feet each way at top, 4 feet deep, and open at bottom. Sterilizing the soil was done by a Company railway engine, the soil in each pot being steamed two hours, at 110° C. Fourteen pots were thus sterilized and the remaining six were neither sterilized nor inoculated. All the pots were planted with one "bit" of a banana tuber having two "eyes" and in seven of those sterilized these bits were inoculated with a laboratory culture of *Fusarium Cubense*, while the other seven were not inoculated. The inoculum was a combination of two kinds of culture—mixed at time of application—one in corn meal decoction and the other in Ushchinski's solution, both originating from rice tube cultures, three weeks previously. It was applied in quantity of about one liter to each pot. Already in February, 1922, one of the inoculated plants showed signs of disease. By April 1 every one of the inoculated plants was diseased and most of them were even then bad cases. Up to July 12, when the writer left Panama, no one of the plants in the inoculated pots, either sterilized or unsterilized, gave any indication of disease. Besides the added interest that may be attached to this experiment, with a different variety of banana in a different locality, the writer is glad, and others will be, that it confirms the painstaking work of Dr. Brandes. It should be added that Dr. J. R. Johnston, director of tropical research for the United Fruit Company proposed the experiment, in which the writer was also supported and encouraged by the manager, H. S. Blair, and by H. L. Peck, E. C. Adams, and other men of the Company.

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#### FRESH WATER COELENTERATA IN KENTUCKY

IN 1916<sup>1</sup> the writer called attention to an extraordinary appearance of the rare fresh-water medusa, *Craspedacusta sowerbyi*, in a Kentucky creek, when it was present literally by the thousands, and expressed his intention to make a search for the hydroid stage of the

jellyfish, since the indications were that where so many of the sexual form occurred there should be a good prospect of finding the asexual stage. With this in view visits have been made from time to time to the place where the medusæ were found. In 1917, a year after they were first observed, they were present again in as great numbers as in the preceding year<sup>2</sup>; still no trace of a hydroid condition could be found. Each year thereafter the place was searched, but they have not been seen since 1917. It may be of interest to record, however, that this year (September 26) when examining the locality, some fine growths of the hydroid *Cordylophora*<sup>3</sup> were obtained in the part of the stream where *Craspedacusta* was discovered. There can be no doubt about this material representing *Cordylophora lacustris*, and this interesting fresh-water hydroid is thus given a new locality in which it is associated in a way with *Craspedacusta*. The growths are attached to living willow twigs that by the drooping of branches have become immersed in the water.

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#### AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN SCIENCE

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: I am glad to be able to inform you that in response to my appeal on behalf of Professor W. Boldyreff, published in SCIENCE of October 27 under the heading, "An Opportunity," I received promptly a number of requests for special information concerning Dr. Boldyreff's qualifications, and that as a result of these inquiries he has now received an appointment for a year in a dignified position which will give him excellent opportunity for research work and an income to keep himself and family alive.

VERNON KELLOGG

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

NOVEMBER 28, 1922

<sup>2</sup> Professor Hargitt in commenting on the matter (SCIENCE, L. 1919, page 413) was wrong in inferring that they disappeared at once.

<sup>3</sup> A medusa stage is believed not to be produced by this hydroid.

<sup>1</sup> SCIENCE, Vol. XLIV, page 858.