

proposed to be done by the National Association for the Preservation of Buffalo-grass. Could not the lesser be served by the greater? Might not the part be included in the whole?

I am the more urged to these reflections, when I recall the fact that there are parties who are now thinking of forming a National Society for the Preservation of Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) and the Trailing Arbutus. Poor things! It seems, that unless something is done, the Trailing Arbutus will become extinct at a not far-off date, and the laurel of our hill-sides will all be used up for Christmas decorations. These beautiful plants will go the way of the Passenger Pigeon. Nevertheless there is the awful consideration which confronts me, as I know it does a number of other kind-hearted men, that we are not able out of the slender resources of our salaries to pay the expenses of a president, a secretary, and all the printing, which are involved in carrying on a campaign from year to year, possibly from century to century, for the Preservation of Buffalo-grass or even Trailing Arbutus or Mountain Laurel.

What are we going to do about it? As I look at my desk piled high with requests to contribute to such most worthy causes, I sigh for "the wealth of Ormus and of Ind." Then I turn to my beggarly bank-book, which I have just had balanced, showing that I have available for expenditure the sum of \$.23. (Skid-doo!) It is indeed cruelly distressing to think that I can not help to satisfy all the brilliant philagrostic, philozoic, and philanthropic yearnings of an agitated nation. But I have only twenty-three cents in bank!

W. J. HOLLAND

#### OPALINA JAPONICA SUGIYAMA [NOT METCALF]

IN Bulletin 120 of the United States National Museum I described as new *Opalina japonica* from *Rana japonica* from Japan. I have since learned that Takesi Sugiyama had already given this name to an *Opalina* from this same host. Although in both infections which I studied the parasites were a little smaller than in Sugiyama's material, there seems no doubt but his forms and mine are of the same species. The name and both his and my descriptions stand, but the authorship of the name is his. Sugiyama's paper<sup>1</sup> is careful and painstaking and is illustrated by beautiful drawings, many in color, which are well worth study.

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<sup>1</sup> "Studies on the structure and the nuclear division in a Japanese species of *Opalina*, *O. japonica*, nov. spec.": in Journ. Coll. Agriculture, Imp. Univ. Tokyo, Vol. VI, no. 4, Nov. 20, 1920.

#### THE NORTHERN RANGE OF THE SCORPION

IN a recent communication to SCIENCE (Sept. 28, 1923) Mr. R. L. Webster records the finding of *Vejois boreus* (Girard) at several localities in the "Bad Lands" district of North Dakota and mentions its occurrence, as indicated by specimens in the National Museum, in Oregon and Idaho in addition to more southern states. As these records do not adequately indicate the northern range of this scorpion, it seems desirable to note that it is not infrequently met with in Montana, northern Idaho and Washington, where I have personally taken specimens close to the Canadian border. Recently Professor C. T. Brues placed in my hands for identification a specimen of this same species which had been taken by Mr. F. S. Carr at Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, a place in Lat. 50° N. and noted for its low temperatures.

R. V. CHAMBERLIN

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

I have found scorpions in two localities in Montana. In April, 1922, I found three individuals in a crack in a sandstone escarpment in Township 35 North, Range 1 West, Toole county, Montana. A single individual was found in Section 21, Township 2 South, Range 20 East, one mile west of Columbus, Stillwater county, Montana. It was not convenient to collect the animals and the species was not determined. So far as the writer is aware scorpions have not heretofore been reported from Montana.

EARNEST GUY ROBINSON

BILLINGS, MONTANA

#### THE MARQUESAS

LARGE amounts are annually donated by men of means to various institutions for explorations and research for the advancement of archeology, botany, astronomy, biology and other sciences.

The dying out of the populations in some of the Pacific archipelagoes and the consequent gradual dying out of the seedless breadfruits would seem to call for action of this kind before it is too late. In doing so, not only would some of the most interesting relics of a vanishing people be saved from extinction, but unlike the vast material preserved in museums, they could be made useful for coming generations in furnishing a valuable food.

In "White Shadows in the South Seas," Frederick O'Brien says that the days of the Marquesans are numbered. In an article in the *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1919, J. W. Church corroborates this and says that his census of that year found only 1,950 people alive in the Marquesas, and that in the five preceding years the population had decreased