Barrett, director of the Milwaukee Public Museum; Dr. George L. Collie, curator of the Logan Museum at Beloit College; Ralph N. Buckstaff, secretary of the Oshkosh Public Museum, and Arthur C. Neville, superintendent of the Green Bay Public Museum. About 60 Wisconsin museums of various kinds were represented, including state museums, city museums, county museums, college and state normal museums. The association will be along the same line as those in New England, New York and other states, and will be affiliated with the American Association of Museums. The program included demonstrations by the Milwaukee Museum of ways of collecting, installing and recording material. The two principal speakers were Lawrence E. Coleman, secretary of the American Association, New York City, and Professor Fay Cooper Cole, who is giving a course in museum methods at the University of Chicago.

EIGHT new mountains have been found and ascended in the Cariboo Range of British Columbia by Professor R. T. Chamberlin, of the University of Chicago's department of geology, and Allen Carpe, of New York, who have recently returned from Canada. One of the mountains is among the highest in the Canadian Northwest. They also located the headwaters of the Thompson and Canoe Rivers, and they are the first white men ever to note the glacial sources of these two mountain streams. They camped on the rocks as high as 10,000 feet, using a special powder for fuel.

The Experiment Station Record states that a decree authorizes the establishment in the State of Rio Grande do Sul of a central agricultural experiment station to supplant three small stations at Bagé, Alfredo Chaves and Caxias. The new station will have sections devoted to the culture of wheat, oats, barley, flax, sugar and oil-bearing seeds. Another decree of the same date provides for the establishment of a similar station at Ponta Grossa in the State of Paraná to study and give practical demonstrations regarding the cultivation of wheat, rye, oats, barley and flax. The new stations will be located in the center of the best cereal district of Brazil, and illustrate the policy of the government to stimulate cereal production. At the present time, wheat and wheat flour are among the most important imports, wheat production having been practically at a standstill for several years and negligible in quantity. Special efforts are also being made to increase the production of barley, rye and oats.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

BY the will of the late Ellis Wainwright, of St. Louis, Washington University will receive the residue of his estate, which it is estimated will amount to approximately $600,000.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE W. TODD have given to the University of Rochester $100,000, bringing the contributions to the university's proposed $10,000,000 fund to $3,845,998.23.

GROUND has been broken at Columbia University for buildings for the departments of physics and chemistry. Actual erection will start in December or January. The nine-story $900,000 chemistry building, primarily devoted to laboratories, will house the offices of the dean and professors and a few class rooms. The $1,250,000 physics building will have twelve stories with an observatory on the roof for students of astronomy.

DR. JOHN H. MUSSER, JR., assistant professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, has been appointed professor and head of the department of medicine at Tulane University School of Medicine, to succeed Dr. George S. Bel, resigned.

DR. H. C. GEORGE, who recently resigned from the United States Bureau of Mines, has been appointed professor of petroleum engineering at the University of Oklahoma. The subject of petroleum engineering will rank with other major engineering courses in the university.

DR. H. N. CALDERWOOD, JR., has been appointed assistant professor in chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, in place of Dr. Glenn S. Skinner, who has resigned.

PROFESSOR RUDOLF PUMMERER, of the University of Greifswald, has been called to the chair of chemistry in the University of Erlangen, vacant by the retirement of Professor Otto Fischer.

DRS. HARUO HAYASKI and Kenzo Sudo have been appointed deans of the Tokyo Imperial University Medical College and the Kanazawa Medical College, respectively.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A MISLEADING DESIGNATION

A RECENT number of the "Public Health Reports" (May 9, 1924, page 1074) contains a report of a case of *Dibothriocephalus latus* (*Diphyllobothrium latum*). To the scientific name is appended in the text as a popular designation the name of Broad Russian Tapeworm under which alone the parasite is listed on the cover. While this popular designation is not new it does not seem to have gained wide currency and before it should become incorporated into the literature as an accepted common name I wish to record a protest against its use.

The older authors have all of them referred to this well-known species either as the fish tapeworm or broad tapeworm of man and it is so recorded in all American literature until relatively recent times. Corresponding terms are also utilized by various authors in European languages, and it is unfortunate that any one should regard it necessary to make a change from these two early descriptive names which have been so widely introduced and under which this species is generally so well known. For many reasons, geographic names are not advisable designations for species and the one utilized here is distinctly open to criticism on all the grounds that may generally be urged against such designations as a whole.

The designation is in the first place incorrect since the species in question is well known to have almost a cosmopolitan distribution. It is to be sure limited by certain dietetic relations, *viz.*, the consumption of fish, which varies widely but is definitely connected with the proximity of water bodies yielding a fish food supply that is utilized by a considerable percentage of the adjacent population. Ordinarily the species is listed as common around the Baltic and North Seas and around certain inland water bodies. Many cases on record come from Scandinavia, Switzerland, France, Japan and from the German Baltic provinces as well as from other Baltic provinces which for the most part are now independent and not included in Russia. Consequently such a designation for this species as Russian is scientifically misleading.

One might also rightly object to geographic terms since the species in question has no relation whatever to the nationality involved in the name. Earlier views regarding racial immunity or susceptibility to helminthologic infection have been shown to be largely if not entirely incorrect. Proper consideration for international relations as well as for the scientific factors involved would hence naturally lead to the elimination of such a term and to the utilization of one free from the unfortunate connotation.

Of all the cases of the broad tapeworm on record in this country the large majority are reported from Scandinavians, Germans, Finns and the parasite is in no wise definitely related to the Russians. It is to be hoped that a designation thus definitely misleading may be avoided by writers in future.

HENRY B. WARD

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT AND THE ANTI-NEURITIC VITAMIN

IN recent numbers of SCIENCE and elsewhere observations have been recorded indicating an intimate connection between the antirachitic property of foodstuffs and ultra-violet radiation. Especially in view of the finding that foodstuffs may be rendered antirachitic by ultra-violet radiation, it may be of interest to record the result of an experiment performed a year ago in connection with the effect of ultra-violet light on the antineuritic food factor. In this case it was found that the antineuritic factor was destroyed completely by radiation for a few hours of an aqueous yeast extract which was exposed to the rays of a quartz mercury arc lamp in a layer 2–3 mm deep. Both the irradiated and non-irradiated extract were tested by feeding to pigeons otherwise maintained on a white rice diet.

R. R. WILLIAMS

ROSELLE, NEW JERSEY

STIMULATION OF SPORE GERMINATION BY CO_2

DURING a study of Basisporium dry rot of corn, it was found difficult to germinate the spores of the causal organism, *Basisporium gallarum*, in the usual water drop cultures. The spores of the fungus germinated poorly or not at all when placed in drops of water and held at optimum temperature. In the presence of plant tissue, however, where such tissue is not in contact with the culture drop, profuse germination takes place. Brown[1] described this phenomena in connection with his studies on spore germination but offered no definite explanation of it.

In the case of *B. gallarum* the stimulating effect is produced not only by aromatic fruits and flowers but by leaves and green stems or any fresh cut plant tissue. The general effect of plant tissues suggested carbon dioxide as a possible agent in the stimulation of spore germination. This assumption was strengthened by failure of the spores to germinate in the same chamber with plant tissues if barium hydroxide solution in sufficient amounts was also present. Moreover, while air passed over cut plant tissue, introduced into the same chamber with the spores, strongly stimulates germination, if passed through barium hydroxide before entering the spore germination chamber, no germination results. In all cases where barium hydroxide was used with plant tissue, a heavy precipitate of the carbonate was produced.

The agency of CO_2 in the stimulation of germination of the spores of *Basisporium gallarum* was further demonstrated by the use of washed CO_2 from a generator. The gas in small amounts, from 1 to 5 per cent., stimulated the spores in water drop cultures to profuse germination, while control cultures failed to germinate.

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[1] Brown, William. "Studies in the physiology of parasites," IX, 1922, *Ann. Bot.*, 36, 285–300.