consideration of the masses of the nitrogen and CO molecules one would expect a difference of two per cent. for the vibrational shifts of corresponding systems. It would seem that the differences in the forces in the two molecules is such as to compensate for the differences in masses.

The presence of CO in my apparatus was probably due to its evolution from the nickel cylinder upon which the gauze was mounted. This nickel must have contained nickel carbonyl, which breaks down at high temperatures and yields CO. Facilities for the complete outgassing of this tube were not available.

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ANOTHER LUMINOUS SPIDER

A NOTE on "A Luminous Spider," published by me in SCIENCE, August 21, 1925, it seems has been copied in the London *Sphere,* and another observation has been reported in a letter from Mr. C. H. Bompas, Bishops Stratford, Herts, England, which reads:

I have read your note on a phosphorescent spider from Burma in the *Sphere.*

As you are presumably interested in such things you may like to know that I have seen such a spider at Shillong, in Assam.

The spider is truly phosphorescent and switches on its light when frightened. It is some time since I saw one, but my recollection is that the light came from six or eight spots under the abdomen.

The one I saw was in the middle of a bush and when approached or shaken glowed more brightly, no doubt as a means of defense.

The locality from which this second occurrence is reported is about one hundred miles from the place of my observation in Burma. While the observation differs in many respects, it is, I think, well worth recording.

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THE METHODS OF THE FUNDAMENTALISTS

DR. KEEN'S experience with the "constructive memory" of the Rev. W. B. Riley, D.D. (SCIENCE, December 11, 1925, p. 543) just about matches a more recent one of my own with another important Fundamentalist.

My attention was called to an article, "The Bible and Evolution," in *The Herald of Christ's Kingdom* (September 15, 1925, p. 275) in which there appears a long quotation from Darwin's "Life," which examination proves to be made up by combining portions of two paragraphs that in Darwin's text (Vol. 1, pp. 277 and 282) stand four and one half pages apart. In this "quotation," moreover, Darwin's words (p. 282) "I deserve to be called a Theist" appear as "I deserved to be called an atheist"—and the usual moral is drawn.

I wrote the editors of *The Herald of Christ's Kingdom,* setting forth these facts, with all the proper references. I also wrote that their article contains, along with this, a great many more similar oversights; and I offered, since they proposed to bring out a reprint of their "special evolution number," to send them a list of a dozen or twenty of these errors, which I agreed to check up carefully, provided they would agree not to reprint in their new edition any fact on my list which they themselves could not verify, and would withdraw the spurious quotation.

They rejected my offer. This is the sort of evidence that is now being presented to state legislators to get laws forbidding the teaching of evolution. Moreover, these people are not anywhere in the mountains of Tennessee, but at 177 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, New York.

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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Left-handedness. By BEAUFORT SIMS PARSON. New York, Macmillan, 1924. Pp. 185.

THE fundamental differences that determine right- and left-handedness have probably not been discovered by Mr. Parson, and yet his experimental results are very suggestive. He calls attention to the fact, so often observed, that right-handed persons are usually right-eyed. Ordinarily the right eye has better vision. This is usually the eye selected for monocular use with microscope or rifle. But the author points out a more important meaning of the term, right-eyedness, which is this.

If we fixate a distant object with both eyes, a near object gives us a double image. If, maintaining our fixation, we grasp the near object and so move it as to bring its image on the fovea, it is usually upon the fovea of the right eye that the image falls. This means that when we point to an object we place the pointing finger along the line of vision of the right eye. Were we to direct both eyes toward the finger, the right eye would remain stationary and the left would move. In this sense the right eye is dominant. In reaching for an object that casts double images, it is stimulation of the right eye that determines our movement.

As aiming is done along the right eye's line of vision, the right hand is more likely than the left to