

to appear between the citation of volume and the citation of pages, because the nature of the date-number nearly always distinguishes it from the smaller numbers for volume and for pages, and one does not then have to use bold-face type or ordinarily to print "vol." or "v." I remember, however, once bringing tears into the eyes of a librarian by suggesting that the pages be separated from their volume by the date. It seems so logical to follow this order and to make for so much greater clarity that I can not understand why bibliographical practice is ordinarily against it. Can any of the readers of SCIENCE tell me why the date should not be interpenetrated between volume and pages?

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A UNIFORM, clear style for footnote citations is unquestionably desirable and no one is in better position to realize it than the editors of journals receiving contributions from a wide range of authors. These very same journals also have a wide range of readers to whom uniformity and fulness of citation will be a boon.

The danger to be avoided in the systematization of footnotes is over-abbreviation. Certainly, Arabic numerals are preferable to Roman because of the greater ease with which they are read; but when it comes to using cryptic formulas such as PSBA, JAFI, BAMNH, PCAS, AJS, ACM, etc., in referring to publications, it seems that we sacrifice clarity for the sake of saving half a line of type and give many a reader a crossword puzzle instead of a clear citation. Ink and paper are cheap. Why not use enough of both to make footnote citations uniform, clear, unambiguous and understandable to every reader?

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RAILROAD PASSES FOR SCIENTIFIC WORK

WITH the development of scientific research, many field investigations are carried on. Since science is poor, it would be desirable to have railroad passes to further this work. This laboratory has made plans to investigate some of the results, on the human organism, of a surgical operation. Such work will have to be done in the field, necessitating travel for which we have no funds.

The Interstate Commerce Commission, which regulates the issuing of railroad passes, provides free transportation to "persons exclusively engaged in charitable or eleemosynary work." It makes no mention of the matter of scientific research. Evidently, scientific research is a question which the Interstate

Commerce Commission has not considered. Is scientific research charitable or eleemosynary? Possibly a large part of research might be so called since there is no remuneration paid to college professors carrying on such research as an extra load to teaching. The results of much such research evidently are bestowed gratuitously on succeeding generations.

This laboratory has approached one railroad and they express their willingness to donate a pass if they can be sure that such action will be within the law.

It seems that it would be desirable that this question be considered by men of science and some statement be made to the Interstate Commerce Commission in order that this latter body may take some action.

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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Mosquitoes of Surinam—A Study in Neotropical Mosquitoes. By C. BONNE and J. BONNE-WEPSTER. Royal Colonial Institute of Amsterdam, Department of Tropical Hygiene, 1925, 558 pp., 31 pl.

DR. BONNE for a number of years was government bacteriologist of Surinam. He and his talented wife, Mrs. J. Bonne-Wepster, greatly interested in all sanitary matters, conceived the idea as early as 1916 that they would make a careful study of the mosquitoes of that region, and the present fine volume is the result. It took many years in the course of its preparation and a number of years more to secure its publication. They began to correspond with the writers in the summer of 1916 and to send in specimens for identification. Later, in 1919, they came to Washington and spent some time in the National Museum studying the mosquito collections and familiarizing themselves with the methods used in the preparation of the four-volume Monograph of the Mosquitoes of North and Central America and the West Indies, the final parts of which had recently been published by the Carnegie Institution. Although very appreciative of the opportunities given them in Washington and greatly pleased with the result of their work here, their thoroughgoing ideas led them subsequently to visit the British Museum and to make a careful study of the types of neotropical species which had been before Theobald's eyes when he wrote his elaborate Monograph of the Culicidae of the World. They then went to Holland and began the arrangements for the publication of their extensive work. A little later they returned to Surinam and continued observations, but have now gone back to Holland, where Dr. Bonne has been made director of the Laboratory of the Cancer Research Institute in Amsterdam.