found to be only three to one. Observations on other areas indicated that the general average for the region was closer to five to one. This lowering of the ratio may have been due in part to the unfavorable weather conditions which prevailed over the Middle Atlantic states during the growing season of 1925, but even a ratio of three to one is encouraging.

The older trees mentioned in the previous note have continued growth and they bore a copious crop of nuts last autumn. The nuts, however, were promptly consumed by squirrels and boys of the neighborhood, and branches of some of the trees were broken by stones and brickbats thrown against them. These trees and others similar to them (for they seem to be by no means rare) should now be carefully protected from injury and given opportunity to propagate the species.

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SPECIAL CHARACTERS FOR THE TYPEWRITER

I WAS much interested in reading "Special Characters for the Typewriter" as set forth by Mr. Hulse in SCIENCE for March 26.

One company (the Remington) makes special keyboards, as the medical keyboard and the mathematical keyboard.

The medical keyboard appears to be fairly well suited to the physicians. But the mathematical keyboard is not so well suited to the mathematicians. It leaves off the useful characters \$, %, ¼, ½ and ¾, in order to put on some other mathematical signs.

I think that if a successful mathematical keyboard be made with a forty-two-typebar machine, it will have two shifts, instead of one, and 126 characters instead of 84. Then it could have exponents, as well as many other useful mathematical signs. Of course, such a machine would cost more, and it would be worth more.

I think the mathematical societies should investigate this problem, and tell the typewriter companies what should be done.

AD INFINITUM

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON AND FISHERIES RESEARCH

ON page 91 of the January 22, 1926, number of SCIENCE appeared the following note about the University of Washington, which I would like to correct.

> The University of Washington is to be an international center of the United States and Canadian fisheries research work on the Pacific Coast, according to announcement from Dean John N. Cobb, of the College of Fisheries. The International Fisheries Commission, composed of official state fisheries commissions of Pacific coast states, Alaska and British Columbia, together with the entire Canadian department of fisheries, will consolidate all work here. The university was selected especially because of its proximity to the halibut and salmon supply. Eight leading fisheries scientists will locate in Seattle, among them William S. Thompson, of the California state fisheries, and Dr. H. F. Rich, of Washington, D. C.

About a year ago a treaty was entered into by the United States and Canada looking to the conservation and control of the Halibut fisheries of the Pacific coast. The commission was organized early in the year 1925 and appointed a staff to take care of the scientific investigations. As the commission found it desirable to locate its scientific staff in Seattle, and wished to be within reach of the College of Fisheries library and laboratory facilities, the University of Washington offered to furnish quarters for them in one of the group of buildings housing the College of Fisheries.

A short time after this the various fish commissions of the states of Washington, Oregon, California, the territory of Alaska, Province of British Columbia and the Federal Fish Commissions of United States and Canada met in Seattle and organized a federation looking to better cooperation in working on the many salmon problems of the Pacific coast. Dr. H. F. Rich, of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, in conjunction with an executive committee, were selected to outline plans for standardizing and coordinating the work of the various commissions so far as possible. It was not the intention in the formation of this federation to have the research work done by other than the agencies heretofore operating. In other words, Canada, British Columbia and the other commissions function just the same as they always have done, the idea being merely to meet and exchange ideas looking to a more effective attack upon our salmon problems. For the same reasons as outlined above in connection with the International Fisheries Commission, Dr. Rich was also granted quarters in the same building.

Since then, at the request of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, the university has furnished quarters for those scientists of the bureau, who are working upon Pacific and Northwest problems and whose headquarters it has been found convenient to locate in Seattle.

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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Researches of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism, Volume V.

THE Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, established in