Three other specimens of *Ruvettus* have been taken at Bermuda since the capture of Mowbray's fish, all by Carl Stubbs. Two were taken in December, 1924, and one in January, 1925. But beyond the fact that they were taken in Hungry Bay while Stubbs was fishing at night for red snappers, we unfortunately have no data.

In the vicinity of Hungry Bay, *Ruvettus* is colloquially known as the "Tapioca Fish" on account of its appearance after the scales are removed, since under the scales there is a layer of porous blubber-like tissue which bears some resemblance to tapioca. All the fishermen agree that *Ruvettus* is one of the gamest fighters in Bermudan waters. Lightbourn told Mowbray that he had often hooked what he believed to be this fish, but that he had never had line enough to hold one on its first run until on the occasion noted (1909).

All the specimens listed above were taken at night and during the winter months, but none save Pitcher's fish showed luminosity. All have been used as food and are acclaimed excellent eating. They show much individual variation; some are long and slim, while others are short and bulky; while two of the same length may vary as much as twenty or even thirty pounds.

Pitcher's statement of the luminous globe of blue light surrounding his fish tallies well with Poey's account—the first and indeed the only other one known to us. Felipe Poey[4] says on this point, "When one sees it on the surface of the water, it is surrounded by a luminous or phosphorescent globe." Whether or not Poey saw this can not be stated, but at any rate he quotes his fishermen by name and says that he has full confidence in their account of this remarkable phenomenon.

While Günther in his "Catalogue of Fishes in the British Museum" (1860, vol. II, p. 351) notes that the British Museum had specimens from the "Caribbean Sea," he gives no definite localities. In fact the only definite American faunal record (other than Poey's) known to us is found in Goode and Bean's "Oceanic Ichthyology" (1895, p. 197). They record two specimens taken in 1891 on Georges Bank. One of these was forty-nine, the other sixty inches long. The skeleton of the second is preserved in the United States National Museum, where it has been examined by Gudger.

As indicated above it is our purpose to publish later an extensive study of the natural history of this fish, of its distribution and of its classification. There have been some half dozen species described, but in our judgment these may all be reduced to synonymy as we will endeavor to show in this forthcoming paper.

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AMERICAN MUSEUM OF
NATURAL HISTORY

[4] "Memorias Sobre la Historia Natural de la Isla de Cuba," Habana, 1854, Vol. I, article 31, pp. 373–374.

THE NORTHWEST SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION

THE third annual meeting of the Northwest Scientific Association was held at Spokane in the Davenport Hotel on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 28 and 29, under the presidency of Dr. C. H. Clapp, president of the University of Montana, Missoula, Montana. The meetings were all well attended by local and visiting scientists, not only from the inland Empire country but from more distant parts of the northwest. The interest and enthusiasm that marked the various sessions were striking features of the meeting and bear witness to the important place which the association occupies in the "promotion of scientific research and the diffusion of scientific knowledge."

There were three general sessions, two of which were open to the general public in addition to meetings of the following sections: Botany-Zoology, Plant Pathology, Forestry, Chemistry-Physics, Geology-Geography, Education-Psychology, and Social Science.

The annual dinner of the association was held on Wednesday evening in the Hall of the Doges, Davenport Hotel, following which the address of the retiring president on "Eugenics and the Cost of Government" was delivered by Chancellor M. A. Brannon, the University of Montana, Helena, Montana.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: *President,* Mr. L. K. Armstrong, Mining Engineer, 720 Peyton Building, Spokane, Washington; *Vice-president,* Dean E. C. Johnson, State College of Washington, Pullman, Washington; *Secretary-Treasurer,* Professor J. W. Hungate, State Normal School, Cheney, Washington.

Two very important actions were passed by the association:

(1) It was decided to take definite steps to incorporate the association in order that its acts may be legalized and the foundation laid for a sound program of development.

(2) The association went on record as favoring efforts to establish and maintain a research institute and museum to be located at Spokane, which would also afford library and publication facilities for science workers of the northwest. With this end in view a committee of seven has been appointed to consider ways and means of realizing this high purpose.