tuary in Louisiana, which she gave to the association in 1924.

APPROPRIATIONS to the amount of $1,316,542 for the Connecticut Agricultural College have been made by the General Assembly, included in which are funds for a classroom building, and for the increasing of the extension work of the college throughout the state. Funds appropriated for maintenance for the next two years include $475,000 for college and resident instruction; $160,000 for extension work throughout the state, and $70,000 for agricultural experiment station. In the aggregate these figures represent a gain of $45,000 over the amount appropriated at the last session of the legislature two years ago. Other appropriations include $420,000 for a classroom building; $28,000 for a pathological laboratory for the Storrs Experiment Station; $19,920 for equipping fruit storage building; $47,622 for enlarging filter beds of college water supply, and $96,000 towards enlarging work of county farm bureaus.

THE collection of books and periodicals on surgery of the late Dr. Albert E. Halstead has been donated by his widow to Northwestern University Medical School; they will be installed in a seminar room adjoining the Archibald Church Memorial Library and will be known as the "Albert Edward Halstead Surgical Library."

THE British Empire Marketing Board has granted funds to the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture at St. Augustine, Trinidad, for the prosecution of banana research investigation destined to produce a new variety of banana immune from Panama disease. A quarantine station will be established at Kew, where root-stocks imported from other countries can be grown, and off-sets certified free from disease will be sent out to the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture at Trinidad. This college will add to its staff plant physiologists and mycologists and all necessary laboratory equipment.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

IT is announced that Yale University has already received $15,000,000 in its drive for a $20,000,000 endowment fund.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY has received from Mr. Thomas D. Jones, a lawyer, and Miss Gwethalyn Jones, his niece, both of Chicago, $400,000 to found two professorships of research in the departments of physics and chemistry.

A DRIVE is to be conducted from June 6 to 14 for $1,500,000 for the erection of a new building for Jefferson Medical College on the north side of Walnut Street between the present college and Clifton Street.

DR. FERNANDUS PAYNE has been appointed dean of the graduate school of Indiana University and head of the department of zoology, in succession to the late Dr. C. H. Eigenmann.

PROFESSOR ARNOLD DRESDEN, of the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed professor of mathematics at Swarthmore College, Pa.

DR. S. W. RANSOM, of Washington University, has been appointed director of the Neurological Research Institute of the Northwestern University Medical School.

DR. J. W. CHURCHMAN has been appointed professor of experimental therapeutics in the Cornell University Medical College (New York) and director of the laboratory founded by outside gifts two years ago for the purpose of making it possible for him to continue his investigations of the bacteriostatic properties of the aniline dyes.

PROFESSOR BENJAMIN F. HOWELL, of Princeton University, has been elected to succeed the late Professor M. W. Twitchell as professor of geology and paleontology at the Wagner Free Institute of Science, Philadelphia.

AT Harvard University, Dr. Leigh Hoadley, assistant professor of biology at Brown University, has been appointed assistant professor of zoology, and Dr. Marshall Hertig, instructor of zoology in the University of Minnesota, assistant professor of medical entomology in the school of public health. Dr. Edwin C. Kemble has been promoted to be associate professor of physics, and Dr. Kirk Bryan, to be assistant professor of physiography.

DR. W. E. LOOMIS, of the horticulture department, University of Arkansas, will join the botanical staff of Iowa State College as associate professor of plant physiology beginning July 1.

DR. RUBERT S. ANDERSON has been appointed assistant professor at New York University in the department of physiology.

DR. D. MACC. BLAIR, lecturer in regional anatomy in the University of Glasgow, has been appointed to the chair of anatomy at the University of London, tenable at King's College.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

CARELESSNESS IN NOMENCLATURE

KINDLY permit me to call the attention of editors, heads of zoological departments and others in similar

positions of authority to a regrettable carelessness and inaccuracy that beginners in physiological and experimental biological work tend to show, which should be corrected by those who are responsible for their training.

A simple case occurs in a recent paper issued by one of our leading research foundations which refers at the start to "the ovum of the spatangoid sea-urchin, *Clypeaster rosaceus*." Now this is much better than to have said merely "the ovum of Clypeaster," for the writer wished to be definite and let the reader know what kind of an animal he was talking about. But ought not the writer to have known that a clypeaster simply can not be a spatangoid? Is that too much to expect from a worker in the field of physiology?

A much worse case is that of a paper in one of our leading zoological journals which bears the amazing title: "The Effects of Ultraviolet Light on Pond Snails (Linnaeus)." Obviously this is an inexcusable blunder—Linnaeus never named a group "pond snails." Probably the word printed Linnaeus was written "Limnaeus" (= Lymnaea, a genus of freshwater mollusks), but the writers, in reading the proof, failed to note the error. This blunder in the title might be regarded as a joke if it were not characteristic of the paper as a whole. The authors give no clue as to when or where their work was done. There is no hint as to whether more than one species of "pond snail" was used, but the statement is made that "snail embryos seem to be well adapted for this type of experimentation." Very likely—but "snails" and "pond snails" are two very different groups. When one considers that there are hundreds of species of pond snails in the United States (assuming that this piece of work was done in this country—for which assumption there is no evidence), belonging to many genera and several families, is it not absurd to make statements about the effects of ultraviolet light on pond snails and not specify the forms used? Granting that the writers intended to limit their "pond snails" to the genus Lymnaea, as is quite possible, the situation is not much better, for the genus Lymnaea, in its old, wide sense, includes hundreds of species showing a great range of characters. Now, *some one ought to have required these writers first of all to know what animal or animals they were working with.* Without such knowledge, clearly stated at the start, work of this kind has little if any value.

A third case has just come to hand. Here is a paper entitled "A Study of the Genetic Relationships of the 'Amebocytes with Spherules' in Arbacia." The lay reader will naturally want to know what Arbacia is. He gets a hint that it is an echinoid, from references to other publications, but there is no definite statement on the point nor is there any clue as to where or when the observations recorded were made. We are told that the perivisceral fluid of *Arbacia punctatum* was used; this seems definite until we discover that there is no such species of Arbacia known as *punctatum*. There are half a dozen species of Arbacia recognized and twenty or more names have been given to them—but there is no *punctatum*. However, Lamarck did give the name *punctulatum* to a species which is found at Woods Hole, Mass., so that most readers will guess that this piece of work was done at Woods Hole and that *Arbacia punctulata* was used. But is there really any excuse for publishing the name as *punctatum*? Is it unfair to think that so doing indicates carelessness, or indifference to accuracy or both? In my opinion the paper should have had the title: "A Study of the 'Amebocytes with Spherules' in a Sea-Urchin." In the first paragraph should have been a statement to the effect that the work was based on material of the sea-urchin, *Arbacia punctulata* (Lam'k.), obtained at Woods Hole, Mass., in the summer of 1925 (or whenever it may have been). Such a statement forms a definite foundation on which the work may rest; without it every statement made is open to doubt.

HUBERT LYMAN CLARK

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SOME NEW LECTURE DEMONSTRATIONS IN GYROSCOPIC MOTION

IF an ordinary gyroscopic top is equipped with hooks at each end of the axis in the form of wire loops, the top when rotating will walk down an incline made of two rods (Fig. 1).

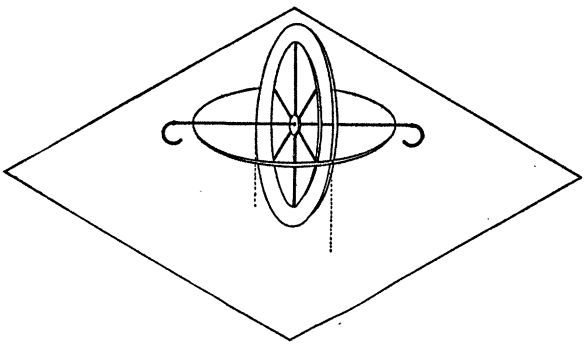

FIG. 1. This top will walk down two parallel inclined rods which pass through the hooks.

The top starts to slide down the wires, but friction retards one end more than the other—this causes the top to precess, the free end rises and moves forward. After this end has moved forward it strikes the rod on