The specimens are on file at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Perhaps they have been carried to the Duluth Harbor on some of the occasional ocean-bound vessels that visit this port. At least, it is surprising to find them so far from salt water.

O. LLOYD MEEHEAN

SOME ADDITIONAL STORIES ABOUT SCIENTIFIC NAMES

DR. L. O. HOWARD'S recent note on this subject calls to mind a story regarding a bacteriological scientific name that I have intended to record before this.

In the publication of De Bary's original description of the common spore-forming organism, *Bacillus megatherium,* a typographical error occurs which has frequently caused trouble. The incorrect spelling is *Bacillus megaterium.*

Last summer in chatting with Professor S. Winogradsky in his laboratory maintained by the Pasteur Institute in the little town of Brie-Comte Robert near Paris, I learned that he was a student in De Bary's laboratory at the time he discovered this organism. He tells me that because of its large size it received the nickname in the laboratory of the "big animal." In American slang, this would have been "big bug." The correct spelling then is, as I have already indicated, *Bacillus megatherium,* and its derivation is evident. Some attempts have been made to retain the misspelled form of the word, and various students have tried to give a logical derivation for it.

Another typographical error that occurs in the naming of one of our common spore formers is found in Migula's original description of *Bacillus albolactis* in his "System der Bakterien." The form just given is the correct Latin form and occurs in the index, although the spelling in the text is given as *B. albolactus.* The incorrect spelling is frequently used in the literature.

ROBERT S. BREED

NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

REPORTS

THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL'S GRANTS-IN-AID

AT a recent meeting of the National Research Council's Committee on Grants-in-Aid, which is composed of the chairmen of the council's seven divisions of science and technology and the chairman, treasurer and permanent secretary of the council, and which has charge of the disposition of certain funds made available to the National Research Council by the Rockefeller Foundation for the making of special grants, various matters of policy were considered and several grants were made.

The following items of general policy were adopted:

Grants will be made primarily for the support of investigations in the fields represented by the divisions of the Research Council, in order to cover the following expenses: apparatus, material, assistance and necessary travel to and from the field of operation.

In general, grants will not be given for personal salary, for expenses of publication, for the purchase of books or for travel to attend scientific meetings.

Preference will ordinarily be given to the support of investigations: (*a*) which can be completed with the aid of the grant; (*b*) toward which the university or other institution to which the applicant is attached also contributes financially or through special support; (*c*) for which a grant of not more than $1,000 is requested.

A report of progress, with items of expenditure, should be made by the grantee to the secretary of the committee at least twice a year, as of December 31 and June 30.

The title to property purchased from grants will remain with the National Research Council until ultimate disposition of the property is made by the council.

Eighteen grants were made, as follows:

Richard T. Holbrook, professor of French, University of California, for X-ray studies on speech articulation in French, Italian and other languages; Charles W. Jarvis, associate professor of physics, Ohio Wesleyan University, for studies of critical potentials of mercury vapor; Gordon L. Locher, assistant professor of physics, Miami University, for studies of the composite photoelectric action of X-rays; Paul R. Rider, associate professor of mathematics, Washington University, for a study of the mathematical theory of the reliability of random samples; George B. Welch, Marshall College, for investigations on photoelectric thresholds; Ernest V. Lawrence, associate professor of physics, University of California, for a study of the photoelectric properties of metal surfaces and thin films of alkali metals; Raymond T. Birge, professor of physics, University of California, for the purchase of an electric computing machine for use in studies on the probable values of the general physical constants, and Mark H. Liddell, professor of English, Purdue University, for studies upon the physical characteristics of speech sounds.

James B. Macelwane, S.J., professor of geophysics, St. Louis University, for seismological investigations, involving the establishment of seismological stations at Little Rock, Arkansas, and in Kentucky or Tennessee, and Willard Berry, the Johns Hopkins University, for investigations on the Tertiary fauna, especially the Foraminifera, of Peru.

Charles W. Greene, professor of physiology and pharmacology, University of Missouri, for a study of the physiology of the nervous and reflex control of the coronary circulation through the heart; R. S. Cunningham, professor of anatomy, Vanderbilt University, for investigations on the metabolism of connective tissue cells, and A. T. Rasmussen, professor of neurology, University of Minnesota, for studies of the human hypophysis.

Lee R. Dice, assistant professor of zoology, University of Michigan, for a study of the variability of deer mice, *Peromyscus maniculatum;* E. F. Chidester, professor of zoology, West Virginia University, for investigations on the endocrines of nutrition, and C. A. Barker, Ohio State University, for investigations on the biology of the Miami River near Dayton, Ohio.

Knight Dunlap, professor of experimental psychology, the Johns Hopkins University, for studies on the participation of the muscles of the human body in thought processes, and Forrest L. Dimmick, professor of experimental psychology and research associate, Hobart College, for experimental investigations of auditory experiences.

Only one of the grants so far made has exceeded $1,000 in amount, two grants of this sum having been made, one for $960, one for $600 and four for $500 each. The remaining nine grants were for sums of less than $500. Eight of the eighteen grants were made for the purchase of apparatus; one was for the purchase of supplies; six were for technical assistance, and three for travel and special services.

VERNON KELLOGG,
Permanent Secretary,
National Research Council

GRANTS FROM THE ELIZABETH THOMPSON SCIENCE FUND

PREVIOUS awards from the Elizabeth Thompson Science Fund have been reported in SCIENCE, April 23, 1926, and earlier. Since the last report the following awards have been made:

At the meeting of May 27, 1926

No. 271 to C. E. Mickel, University of Minnesota, $275 toward traveling expenses necessary to visit collections of type specimens for his study of the biology of the Mutillidae.

No. 272 to A. A. Schaeffer, University of Kansas, $200 for aid in the prosecution of his studies on the spiral movement of organisms with special reference to man.

No. 273 to Orland E. White, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, $300 toward the purchase of an eight-row calculating machine for use in working up his studies on inheritance in the genus Pisum.

At the meeting of February 25, 1927

No. 274 to B. Lipschütz, Paltauf's Pathological Institute, Vienna, Austria, $150 for experimental animals and chemical reagents for use in studies on the inclusion diseases of the skin.

No. 275 to Bela Pogeny, Budapest, Hungary, $300 for apparatus necessary for studies on the propagation of light in rotating glass.

At the meeting of November 28, 1927

No. 276 to Homer Smith, department of physiology, University of Virginia, $300 for a study on the evolutionary development of body fluids of higher animal forms.

No. 277 to J. Strohl, Zurich, Switzerland, $200 in support of the Concilium Bibliographicum.

No. 278 to E. Uhlenhuth, University of Maryland, School of Medicine, $300 for aid in conducting a series of experiments on basal metabolism as influenced by certain endocrine glands in cold-blooded animals.

At the meeting of February 6, 1928

No. 279 to E. Witschi, University of Iowa, $300 for aid in constructing an aquarium tank.

No. 280 to B. Lipschütz, Paltauf's Pathological Institute, Vienna, Austria, $150 for experimental animals and other items necessary for his investigations.

At the meeting of May 25, 1928

No. 281 to Norton A. Kent, department of physics, Boston University, one Munroe calculating machine for aid in the reduction of spectrum plates.

No. 282 to Joyet-Lavergne, Paris, France, $360 toward the purchase of a binocular microscope for use in cytological investigations.

No. 283 to H. M. Chadwell, Tufts College, $400 for the purchase of a Zeiss refractometer necessary for the completion of researches on the depression of the freezing-point.

No. 284 to A. A. Schaeffer, University of Kansas, $150 to enable him to continue two phases of his work on spiral movement.

At the meeting of November 27, 1928

No. 285 to William Rowan, University of Alberta, department of zoology, $300 as a contribution toward the cost of his experiments on migration of crows.

No. 286 to Knut Lundmark, Astronomical Observatory, Upsala, Sweden, $150 as aid to his work on spiral nebulae.

At the meeting of February 25, 1929

No. 287 to W. J. Crozier, Laboratory of General Physiology, Harvard University, $250 for furtherance of an investigation of the thermodynamic efficiency of the fixation of atmospheric nitrogen by organisms.

No. 288 to E. Witschi, University of Iowa, $200 for aid in the study of the abnormal development of over-ripe amphibian eggs.

No. 289 to T. J. Königsberger, Mathem.-Physik. Institut, Freiberg, Germany, $200 to aid in the investigation of the electrical conductivity of the earth at different depths.