Near one river, I counted 18 dead turtles on 60 running feet of paved automobile road.

A list of animals seen by the driver and listed by an occupant of an automobile which traveled about 500 miles in two days follows:

Bats	3	Rats	2
Birds (unidentified)	34	Skunks	18
Cats	2	Snakes	4
Chipmunks	1	Sparrows	11
Dogs	2	Squirrels (fox)	5
Foxes (red)	1	Squirrels (gray)	1
Mice	2	Toads	13
Moles	4	Turkeys	1
Muskrats	10	Turtles	8
Pheasants	2	Woodchucks	2
Rabbits	11	Woodpeckers	12
		Unidentified animals	30

Considering the vast mileage of highways throughout each state and the number of states, the total animal destruction of wild life on our automobile highways must be gigantic. One sometimes wonders if a good portion of these colossal tragedies could not be prevented by modern, scientific means if the effort were put forth. However, as far as the writer knows, little effort is being put forth to prevent automobiles from destroying countless numbers of our wild life when crossing the highways. Yet, before any effort is put into practise, research must discover a method. Perhaps culverts between swamps, rivers, lakes and brooks where many of the wild aquatics and semi-aquatics migrate might lessen this toll considerably. Through these culverts turtles, muskrats and other aquatics might find a safe means of migration. Furthermore, some of the predators feed on animals which in turn are searching for their food on the highways. The toad loves to hop over the pavement and under bright lights, in the early evening, obtain as his pabulum tiny morsels of insect life. Perhaps the removal of bright lights to margins of the highway through cities and towns would prevent this slaughter.

Paved roads bordered by forests, planted fields and natural waterways seem to take the greatest toll of our wild life. In one stretch of wooded road extending two miles, 200 dead animals were counted. Further data will bring to light the practicability of "animal crossroads" over automobile highways.

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TERMINOLOGY OF ISOTOPES

THE great interest in heavy hydrogen has brought many and sundry suggestions regarding the nomenclature of hydrogen isotopes. It is not the writer's intention to discuss these, sometimes very fanciful, proposals but merely to point to a safe, sane and simple method of naming *all* isotopes. The published lists of isotopes can readily be amended by giving to each isotopic weight an alphabetic letter in the order of the abundance of the isotope, so that *a* always signifies the most abundant, *b* the next abundant isotope.

Tin is very rich in isotopes, and these would be listed as Sn a120, b118, c116, d124, e119, f117, g122, h121, i112, j114, k115; and should occasion arise to differentiate these isotopes in a compound, the terms *i-stannic-a-chloride* or *g-stannous-b-chloride* are sufficiently precise, as well as *i-stannic-aaab-chloride* for mixed isotopes. The various possible forms of ammonia become thus: *aaa-, aab-, abb-, bbb-hydrogen-nitride,* or for short: *mono-b-, di-b-,* or *tri-b-hydrogen nitride.* This terminology will fit well into the accepted usage and even high-school students may understand the following series of compounds:

potassium chloride,	KCl = 74.463
a-potassium-a-chloride,	$K^{39}Cl^{35}$ 74.0
b-potassium-a-chloride,	$K^{41}Cl^{35}$ 76.0
a-potassium-b-chloride,	$K^{39}Cl^{37}$ 76.0
b-potassium-b-chloride,	$K^{41}Cl^{37}$ 78.8

as belonging all to the type of "chlorides of potassium." The only exception to this rule might be made in the case of b-hydrogen (deuterium, diplogen) which shows the greatest physical difference for an isotope and may thus be entitled to a distinct name.

TERMINOLOGIST

IT HAPPENED IN ARGENTINA

IN reply to the inquiry, "Where did this really happen?" made by Edward R. Warren and published in SCIENCE, No. 2039, I am glad to be able to communicate that such an event undoubtedly occurred in Argentina. I recently visited the Church of San Francisco, in Santa Fé, Argentina, as one of a numerous group, and the event in question was mentioned by a resident of Santa Fé, who accompanied us, as one of the items of interest about the church, which was built in 1680. Requesting exact information, I received a few days later a note from one of the Franciscan brothers, giving the date as the 18th of April, 1825. At that time the Paraná River was in flood and the "tigre" entered the convent from a floating island of water hyacinths. One of the Franciscans was killed outright, the other was mortally wounded and died a week later.

While the event as recorded by Darwin is thus fully substantiated, this does not exclude the possibility of a similar occurrence on the Rio Grande.

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