also suggests that the salesman who has a noisy used automobile to demonstrate could make the noise appear less if he took the prospect out in it after his big meal of the day. This may also explain why dinner orchestras seem to favor volume to melody, but I doubt if this gives an esthetic justification for their choice of volume.

The practical acoustical worker can quickly verify the data which have been reported, and they would indicate that he will get finer measurements when the ear is used if he has eaten wisely rather than too well.

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TETRAPODS IN THE DUNKARD SERIES

LITTLE vertebrate material of diagnostic value has been reported previously from the rocks of the Dunkard Series of the Allegheny foothill region. Recently a Carnegie Museum field party, consisting of Eugene Burke, William Moran and the writer, discovered well-preserved tetrapod fossils in Dunkard sediments in seven distinct localities. Two of the collecting sites are located in Pennsylvania, the rest in West Virginia and Ohio. While few of the specimens have been removed from the matrix, the material thus far exposed indicates a diversified fauna of amphibians and reptiles. Several skulls and articulated bones have been uncovered, and it is anticipated that some of this material will prove new to science, while at the same time it may be the means of a more exact correlation of the Dunkard rocks, hitherto correlated on the evidence furnished by fossil plants and insects. It is planned to describe this material at a later date in the publications of the Carnegie Museum.

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NOMENCLATURE OF CORPUS LUTEUM HORMONE

DURING the past year the progestational hormone has been isolated from the corpus luteum in pure form and its constitution established. Heretofore two different names have been used for this hormone in the literature (progestin, luteosterone). For the sake of international uniformity we agree to use hereafter in the scientific literature only the name *progesterone* for the pure hormone. As is known, the pure hormone exists in two different forms, one melting at 128° (uncorr.) and the other at 121° (uncorr.). The higher melting form (Compound B of Wintersteiner and Allen (1934)[2] and Compound C of Slotta, Ruschig and Fels (1934)[1]) will be known as α progesterone and the lower melting form (Compound C of Wintersteiner and Allen and Compound D of Slotta, Ruschig and Fels) as β progesterone. We hope that these names will be generally accepted in the scientific literature.

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SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PHYSIOLOGY IN LENINGRAD[1]

THE fifteenth International Physiological Congress opened this morning in the central hall of the former Tauride Palace, now Uritsky Palace, after one of the early Bolshevik leaders who was assassinated in the summer of 1918.

In the great square hall, with its flat glass roof and terra cotta walls divided at regular intervals by huge white pillars, the 85-year-old Professor Ivan Petrovich Pavlov, Russia's foremost physiologist, rang a bell from the rostrum as he faced upward of 1,200 delegates from more than thirty countries, and declared the congress open.

Each delegate had earpieces and a little switchboard on his desk which enabled him to hear the speeches instantaneously in French, German, Russian or English, or to listen to the speaker direct in the language he was using. Professor Pavlov, who received a thunderous ovation, spoke with clarity and firmness that belied his age. He stressed the facilities given to the cause of science by the Soviet Government and declared it was the duty of scientists to strive not only for knowledge but for peace and mutual understanding among nations.

In his work, he said, is development toward the application to human beings, especially in cases of insanity, of the knowledge of conditioned reflexes that has been acquired by experiments upon animals. It must never be forgotten, he added, that physiology is not merely an abstract science but is intimately concerned with the functions of the human body, and thus is of vast medical and social importance.

Ivan A. Akulof, secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the U. S. S. R., welcomed the delegates

[1] Special cable to *The New York Times*, dated August 9, reprinted by permission.

[1] K. H. Slotta, H. Ruschig and E. Fels, *Berichte der deutsch. chem. Gesell.*, 67: 1270, 1934.

[2] O. Wintersteiner and W. M. Allen, *Jour. Biol. Chem.*, 107: 321, 1934.