NOTE: Since this article was first sent in to SCIENCE, the adult cestodes have been recovered from experimentally infected cats, and found to be of two different types, the one morphologically identical with *D. mansonoides,* the other resembling *D. mansoni* in general, but apparently differing from this species in certain important respects. In any case this is the first record of this second form for this country. It is clear therefore that Florida water snakes are infected with two different species of spargana. Further work on these forms will be reported elsewhere.

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PHOTOMICROGRAPHS AND MICROPHOTOGRAPHS

IN the March 5 issue of SCIENCE Professor Luyten made some interesting comments on scientific nomenclature, refers to the term "photomicrograph" as a "horrible hybrid" and expresses his preference for the term "microphotograph," which he recommends as the proper word. This was particularly interesting to me because at about 1912 I wrote numerous abstracts of German papers on the subject of "Metallography" and in these abstracts I repeatedly used the word "microphotograph," only to have the editor of *Chemical Abstracts* invariably change the word to "photomicrograph." At that time, I was rather peeved because I preferred the sound of the word that I used and it was a more literal translation of the German text which I was following. The learned editor of *Chemical Abstracts* carefully pointed out to me that the reader might imagine the word "microphotograph" to signify a very small photograph, whereas I meant the photograph of something that the naked eye could not perceive because the camera was placed over a microscope and the photograph, which was of perfectly normal size, represented a magnification of perhaps 500 diameters.

I have on my desk a 1937 edition of Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, and the term "microphotograph" and "photomicrograph" are both defined in the above sense, although under the former definition a secondary meaning is given as follows: "loosely a photomicrograph." The term "horrible hybrid" is usually applied to words derived from two languages. Thus the term "monovalent," which is often carelessly used by chemists, is frowned upon and it is considered better to use the term "univalent" because "valence" is derived from a Latin word and *uni* expresses in Latin the same idea that *mono* does in Greek. Since the three parts of "photomicrograph" are all derived from Greek words, the word can hardly be called a "horrible hybrid."

If Professor Luyten's communication had been written in 1912, I know I should have hailed it with joy, but I have learned a lot since then and have come to the conclusion that the editor who compelled me to use the term "photomicrograph" twenty-five years ago was wiser than I and did me a service in correcting my writings.

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A MISLEADING ARTICLE IN THE AMERICAN MAGAZINE

IN the May, 1937, issue of *The American Magazine* appeared an article under the name of H. H. Nininger, curator of meteorites in the Colorado Museum of Natural History. This article, which was entitled "It Pays to Keep Your Eyes Open," was not written by Mr. Nininger, as the by-line implies, but by the writer of this statement. Mr. Nininger was responsible for only the portion of the article which deals with meteorites and fossils. The portion dealing with plants and Indian relics was appended by me, solely on my own responsibility.

The original version of the article, which was the only version approved by Mr. Nininger, contained almost no reference to plants or Indian relics. These references were added, without his knowledge, when the editor of *The American* requested me to "fatten" the article. Furthermore, the article was intended to appear "As told to Frank Clay Cross," not as Mr. Nininger's own work.

I have long enjoyed an intimate friendship with Mr. Nininger, and the fact that this article has caused him considerable embarrassment is a matter of great regret to me. If any reader has drawn the inference from it that he is, in any sense, interested in the commercialization of science, that inference is entirely unjustified. The whole blame must rest on me.

This statement is written entirely on my own volition to correct an unfortunate error, in so far as it is possible for me to correct it.

FRANK CLAY CROSS

QUOTATIONS

THE SOVIET POLAR EXPEDITION

THE landing of a Soviet plane at the North Pole and the setting up of the first permanent North Pole weather and scientific station is an achievement that is receiving the wide and enthusiastic acclaim it deserves. It was not of course a "discovery." Neither was it the

first aerial exploration of the Pole. Admiral Byrd, with Floyd Bennett, flew over it in 1926, Roald Amundsen, Lincoln Ellsworth and Umberti Nobile crossed it in the dirigible *Norge* in the same year and in 1928 Nobile returned in the dirigible *Italia,* crossed the Pole a third time, was wrecked on his return trip and saved in the epic of rescue performed by the Soviet icebreaker *Krassin.*

The importance of the flight and landing of Professor Otto Schmidt and A. V. Vodopyanoff, one of the most famous of Russian aviators, and their companions consists rather in their having been the first to follow up a flight to the Pole with the attempt to establish the first permanent polar station, equipped with scientists, wireless and a landing field for planes. The latter is most necessary, for the Soviet believes apparently in "mass" tactics even in polar expeditions —four more planes are prepared to reinforce the first arrivals.

Dramatic as it undeniably is, this feat actually is only another step in the detailed and ambitious program for subduing the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions which the Soviet Government has been steadily and boldly carrying forward for years. With so much of its own territory lying in the far north, the U.S.S.R. seeks to work an economic transformation in this great area, opening up new regions and establishing new shipping services. The world has heard of the remarkable exploits of the *Krassin* and *Cheliuskin,* but the Arctic voyages of the icebreakers *Sedov, Litke, Malygin* and *Sibirakov* have been, perhaps, not less important. In 1934, for example, some thirty Russian expeditions with some forty ships and planes were active in the far northern regions and thirty-eight stations, many with large staffs, were set up on Arctic coasts and islands. And behind the large corps of scientists and sailors and airmen which it has trained for this work, has moved the government, founding new towns, breaking new paths. It is all part of the plan for unlocking the vast resources of the Soviet Union, creating new trade routes and perhaps even providing new strategic lines.

In its turn the work of the Russians logically folllows and extends the explorations of such men as Ellsworth and Byrd in the Arctic and Antarctic, by developing further the use of the airplane and laying firm foundations for scientific observation. Whether the hope that the Russians entertain for using the Pole as a base for a commercial air line from Moscow across the North Sea to San Francisco will materialize must wait upon these studies and a number of other experiments calling for courage and skill in high degree. It appears to be the belief of Professor Schmidt, who is the director of the Soviet Arctic Institute and Northern Sea Route Administration, and, it seems, the intellectual mainspring of Russia's bold pioneering ventures, that such a line will be practicable two years after the completion of surveys. In any event, a brave and auspicious beginning has been made and the world can take pleasure in laying aside all political considerations to applaud the courage and success of those who by employing the new tools of science and aviation have written this latest bright chapter into the history of man's conquest of nature.—*The Baltimore Sun.*

SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

THE KANSAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE sixty-ninth meeting of the Kansas Academy of Science was held at the Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science at Manhattan, Kansas, on April 1, 2 and 3, with Lawrence Oncley, professor of chemistry at Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas, presiding. The committee on arrangements for this meeting consisted of E. C. Miller, chairman, Martha Kramer, E. C. Chapin and M. J. Harbaugh, all of Manhattan.

The meeting opened before an audience of about 800 with a demonstration of some new sound films which are suitable for teaching aids. This demonstration was followed by a showing of his original film on "How Things Grow" by W. J. Baumgartner, of the University of Kansas.

The first general session of the academy was held on Friday morning, April 2, at which time nine papers of general interest and eight papers on geology were presented. Thirty-five geologists and guests under the leadership of A. B. Sperry went on a field trip on Friday afternoon to examine some igneous outcrops near Riley, Kansas. At the same time the following sections met for hearing papers:

Botany, 19 papers, J. H. Doell, Bethel College, presiding.
Chemistry, 15 papers, L. E. Blackman, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, presiding.
Physics, 15 papers, Louis R. Weber, Friends University, Wichita, presiding.
Psychology, 13 papers, Edwina A. Cowan, Friends University, presiding.
Zoology, 33 papers, John Breukelman, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, Kansas, presiding.
Junior Academy, five clubs on program with Hazel Branch, University of Wichita, in charge and an attendance of 100.

On Friday evening, the annual banquet was held at the college cafeteria, with George A. Dean, the first vice-president, as toastmaster and 125 persons in atten-