

came through undamaged, though some of the lemon orchards suffered considerably.

One lesson learned from the 1913 freeze and put into effect in 1937 was the danger of undue haste in removal of apparently seriously damaged trees. Give nature a chance and she will repair her own damage to a very remarkable degree. Very few trees of any variety have been sacrificed in 1937.

S. A. SKINNER

REDLANDS HIGH SCHOOL,
REDLANDS, CALIF.

"IDEST"

IN reading—rather belatedly, I must admit—your issue of November 5 last, I was interested by Mr. C. H. Briggs's letter on page 423, headed "Idest: A Word for avoiding Ambiguity."

While fully agreeing with the point Mr. Briggs raises as to the unfortunate ambiguity frequently inherent in the use of "or," I do feel that his proposal to add to our unfortunate and overburdened language yet another word can only be justified on the score of dire necessity.

In the present case, I do not think this necessity arises. There is already available an expedient which has, I think, been used for a long time past. This expedient is simply the use of parentheses where the second word is merely an alternative term for the first. For example, instead of writing, as Mr. Briggs suggests, "Turkish idest Aleppo galls," "tannin idest gallotannic acid," "muriatic idest hydrochloric acid," why not simply "Turkish (Aleppo) galls," "Tannin (gallotannic acid)" "muriatic (hydrochloric) acid"?

G. R. L. POTTER

OTTAWA, ONT., CAN.

THE MANUFACTURE OF KRAFT PULP AND PAPER

IN the account of the exercises in connection with the celebration at Fernandina of "Florida Industries Day" (*SCIENCE*, January 28, 1938, p. 82) it was stated: "Honor was paid to Dr. Charles H. Herty, by whose research in a small laboratory in Savannah the process of manufacture was discovered." This is an error which has frequently been made in recent weeks, particularly by correspondents of the daily newspapers not familiar with the history of the manufacture of pulp and paper.

In order that the situation may be clarified and justice done to all concerned, I hope that *SCIENCE* will reproduce the following extract from an address I made at a recent public gathering in Savannah, Georgia, which quotes textually and accurately my remarks bearing on this misunderstanding.

Too much credit has been given me in an over abundance of good will on the part of many of the daily newspapers. For instance, in its account of the Fernandina celebration about a month ago, the *New York Times* correspondent stated I was the discoverer of the process for making kraft pulp and paper.

This was so plainly an error it was not worth correcting to paper men, but in order that the record may be clear to all, let me say the kraft pulp and paper industry has been in existence in the South for the last twenty-seven years.

The man who was responsible for that development is a man living and working here in Savannah, namely Ed Mayo, who was a pioneer in the field and who struggled with those same difficulties, prejudices and skepticism which we have been going through in trying to start the news-print industry from pine in the Southern States.

CHAS. H. HERTY

REPORTS

PROGRESS OF THE NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE New York Zoological Society during the year of 1937 made definite strides forward in connection with certain of the activities to which it is dedicated. Before commenting on this progress, it may be said that the collections at both the Zoological Park and the Aquarium are extremely extensive in regard to both interest and number. At the close of the year there were at the park a total of 2,607 specimens, representing 988 species, and at the aquarium a total of 10,804 specimens, representing 480 species.

Among the rare and interesting acquisitions in the park during the past year were the following: The only Okapi that has ever been seen in this country; a pair of Roi Rhebok antelope, Beisa and Saiga antelope; a pair of Muntjacs; a giant armadillo; scarce birds of paradise; a pair of quetzals, which are the

first ever exhibited in any zoological collection, and many other unusual specimens.

Among the most interesting acquisitions at the aquarium were a Madeira scorpion fish; a sea-bat; whip-snake eel; Nile puffer; pink wrasse; Chinese river turtles, Chinese alligator; Coecilians from South America; locust lobsters from Madeira; black-banded butterfly fish; black-barred squirrelfish; panther fish; Chinese fresh-water crabs; and many others. For the first time we have been able to discover more successful methods of keeping octopi alive. The difficult technique of maintaining this delicate animal is gradually being acquired.

During the year 2,655,870 persons visited the zoological park and 2,626,893 persons visited the aquarium.

Improved methods of interpreting the many fascinating facts and principles of zoology are gradually being developed, so that the public may come to see