Although the fact is not widely known, geopathology is a branch of an already established science called biometeorology. Hippocrates knew of these problems when he wrote his *Airs, waters and places,* and Hirsch's and Drake's treatises on geopathology, published in the 1850's, are classics of medical literature. For many years, however, interest in these problems has been lacking, but along with the recent growth of interest in the problem of constitution, investigations of the influence of the environment on man have appeared in increasing numbers. In particular, workers both in this country and in Europe have been studying the influences of weather, climate, and altitude on plants and animals. This study has been designated biometeorology, and in 1939 a section devoted to the literature of this field was founded in *Biological Abstracts* under the section on Ecology. Some of the divisions of biometeorology are medical climatology, meteoropathology, geopathology, and climatotherapy. At the present time the Committee on Climatology of the American Geophysical Union is attempting a classification of the branches of biometeorology so that the existing and forthcoming literature will be readily available to the interested workers.

Although our knowledge is incomplete, it is certainly not fragmentary; for there is already available a vast literature on biometeorology. In recent years a number of excellent monographs have appeared, summarizing some of that knowledge. W. F. Petersen's *The patient and the weather* (4 vols., 1934–1938) and M. Piery's *Traité de climatologie: biologique et médicale* (3 vols., 1934) are among the most extensive. B. de Rudder's *Grundriss einer Meteorobiologie des Menschen* (1938) outlines many of the fundamental principles of the science. C. A. Mills' *Medical climatology* (1939) is an analysis of the seasonal and geographical variation of disease. A. G. Price has admirably analyzed the problem of the *White settlers in the tropics* (1939), and D. H. K. Lee (*Univ. Queensland Pap.*, 1940, **1**, 1–86) has summarized the literature on the physiology of acclimatization.

I do, however, agree with Dieuaide that there is a great need for a systematic investigation of these problems, for a correlation of available literature to serve to focus attention on the problems requiring further study, and for collaboration among the interested investigators so that the research may be carefully planned and efficiently executed to reveal the facts and make the acquired knowledge applicable.

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Retention of High School Science

When I read the recent comment of Charles A. Gramet concerning secondary school science courses (*Science*, 1946, 103, 149), I felt that a reply was necessary.

A few years ago I gave a college pretest in biology, at the time requesting that those who had studied the subject in high school indicate that fact. The results astonished me. Of some 50 students who had studied secondary school biology, only 10 ranked higher than