It is gratifying to learn of the preoccupation of at least some professional biologists with improvement of the biology literacy of the American public. National, state, and local associations of high school biology teachers are equally concerned and they would welcome the cooperation of their colleagues in colleges, universities, and research institutions.

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Correction

In my report on the Echo Lakes Symposium on Cosmic Rays (*Science*, September 2, 1949) the π- and μ-symbols were interchanged, in the line before last of the second column, p. 242, and in the first line of the third column in the same page. The portion of the text containing these two lines should read: ". . . the latest values for the masses of the μ- and the π-meson (215 and 285 electron masses respectively) and for the mean life of the π-meson (0.63×10^{-8} sec)." In a recent letter to the writer, Dr. Barkas states that this value for the mean life of the π-meson has been superseded by more accurate measurements. These measurements, made on positive π-mesons, give a mean life of 1.97×10^{-8} sec. Dr. Barkas also indicates that new mass measurements give 276 electron masses for positive or negative π-mesons and 210 electron masses for positive μ-mesons.

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Psilotum Gametophytes Matured under Greenhouse Conditions from Self-sown Spores

Recently, young sporophytic plants of *Psilotum nudum* (L.) Griseb. (Eames, A. J. *Morphology of vascular plants, lower groups.* New York: McGraw-Hill, 1936) were found growing in the pot of a ten-year old *Cibotium* plant and in the soil around a dead *Adiantum* plant taken from the former pot. Mature sporophytic plants of *Psilotum* have been growing for 10 to 12 years in the vicinity of the *Cibotium* plant in the Cornell University Conservatory.

Numerous whole or fragmentary pieces of gametophytes (Darnell-Smith, P. A. *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinburgh*, 1917, **52**, 79; Holloway, J. E. *Ann. Bot.*, 1939, **3**, 313; Lawson, A. A. *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinburgh*, 1917, **52**, 93) were found in the soil supporting the sporelings, but none were found in the larger pot where they probably first appeared. Gemmae were observed arising from both the gametophytes and the sporophytic rhizomes as described by Holloway. Antheridia were fairly abundant, and the characteristic four-rowed archegonial necks, both entire and decapitated, were observed on nearly all of the gametophytes. Structures which could unquestionably be called embryos were not seen. During the examination of the gametophytes in water under a dissecting microscope, the heat from the electric light bulb warmed the water sufficiently to cause the antheridia to open apically to discharge the sperms. Under the artificial conditions, the sperms were short-lived and died within an hour or less if they did not come in contact with archegonia. The striking, coiled, hyaline sperms were not seen to enter the archegonia, but apparently to lie down, as it were, and remain across the open end of the decapitated necks.

This brief description of a possible source of gametophytes of a plant so important to morphologists and systematists seems worthy of note, for, insofar as the authors are aware, the gametophytes of *Psilotum* have not before been cultured to maturity, either intentionally or, as here, unintentionally, and such culture is considered impossible by many. Lawson germinated spores under nearly natural conditions but it is not clear from his report whether he grew the gametophytes to maturity or not.

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Rainfall of Fish

With regard to the communication (*Science*, 1949, **109**, 402) concerning the rainfall of fish, another pertinent experience may be of interest.

While stationed on the island of Guam in September, 1936, I witnessed a brief rainfall of fish, one of the specimens of which was identified as the tench (*Tinca tinca*) which, to my knowledge, is common only to the fresh waters of Europe. The presence of this species at a locale so remote from its normal habitat is worthy of note.

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