rotation of the plane of the wave front, which would not increase the apparent diameter of a star.

In the case of either an orbital displacement or a rotation of the wave front, the observed deflection decreases with the distance and would be inappreciable at stellar distances. It can be shown that the sun at the distance of the nearest star would show a displacement at the limb, on the Einstein hypothesis, amounting to less than one millionth of a second of arc, if the deflected beam originated in a neighboring companion.

KELVIN BURNS

ALLEGHENY OBSERVATORY

RUSSIAN SCIENTIFIC MEN

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Attention has been called in SCIENCE to the British "appointments committee for Russian scientific and literary men," under the chairmanship of Sir Arthur Schuster. Many Russians distinguished in various branches of learning are at present scattered over European countries, some of whom are destitute, while others are earning a precarious livelihood by work in which they have no opportunity of exercising their particular capabilities, the world at large thus losing the benefit of their knowledge and aptitude.

The object of the committee is to bring the names and qualifications of some of these men to the notice of universities and other institutions outside of Russia which may be able to offer them suitable employment. Lists of these names have been sent by the committee to various universities and organizations and the National Research Council has just arranged to send similar lists to the presidents of about two hundred colleges and universities in this country.

The council has also received a circular letter from a committee of meteorologists and geophysicists of Vienna which asks if certain kinds of statistical and preparative work needed by meteorologists and geophysicists of this country can not be done, for pay, in Vienna. These meteorologists and geophysicists have access to many valuable sources of statistics and general data and appeal for opportunity to do this work in order to assist in supporting themselves. Any communications which it may be desired to make to this committee should be addressed to Dr. A. Wagner, Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie, Hohe Warte 38, Vienna XIX.

VERNON KELLOGG

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

May 27, 1921

SPECIAL ARTICLES

A CONVENIENT CULTURE MEDIUM FOR DAPHNIDS

Daphnia and other Cladocera may be fed upon certain unicellular green algæ, a mixture of various protozoa and protophyta obtained from the sediment of ponds in which there is a considerable quantity of organic matter, or upon bacteria.

For more than five years the writer successfully utilized material from ponds in obtaining food for Cladocera cultures representing several species. The somewhat discolored water was dipped up in such a manner as to obtain considerable amounts of the loose fluffy sediment lightly resting upon the bottom. In the strainings which followed (through silk bolting-cloth, to prevent contamination of the laboratory stock) much of this sediment was rubbed through the straining cloth and distributed with the water to the culture bottles (about 100 c.c. in quantity in ordinary wide mouthed 200 c.c. bottles). This method of obtaining culture water containing the proper food organisms has certain limitations. The water and sediment from most ponds do not constitute a proper culture medium; a pond from which a good culture medium may be obtained is hard to find. Further from month to month and season to season such a pond undergoes wide fluctuation in its usefulness as a source of daphnid food; it may even dry up and one's Cladocera material be imperilled or lost.

Some workers using algæ have cultivated them in jars of water; others on agar plates. The necessity for obtaining just the proper sorts of algæ and the requisite skill in their