

of cytoarchitecture. The entire hemisphere was analyzed, and the paper is illustrated with five excellent plates. Campbell's first paragraph reads as follows:

In my work on the localisation of cerebral function, published in the year 1905, it formed part of my task to compare the cortex cerebri of homo with that of two members of the anthropoid ape family, namely, the chimpanzee (*anthropopithecus troglodytes*) and the orang-outang (*simia satyrus*). Through the kindness of Professor C. S. Sherrington, of Liverpool University, I have since been provided with the right cerebral hemisphere of a gorilla (*anthropopithecus gorilla*\*), which I have examined on lines similar to those followed in the original investigation, and as such specimens are difficult to obtain, and I believe this is the first to be submitted to such examination, I am prompted to offer the following report and ask that it be taken as an addendum to what I have already written.

\* The animal was young, almost a baby, accordingly the myelinisation of the cortical nerve fibres was incomplete and imperfectly developed nerve cells (neuroblasts), especially in the deeper parts, were abundant. But, although the specimen differed in this way from those of the other apes examined, the determination of the various areas in which we are interested was not interfered with.

Dr. T. C. Ruch, whose forthcoming bibliography of all primate literature is being made ready for press, informs me that Campbell's study of the gorilla brain is the only complete survey in the literature. An account of Campbell's life will be found in the *Archives of Neurology and Psychiatry*, 40: 566-568, 1938.

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# OCURRENCE OF THE ORIENTAL RAT FLEA IN THE INTERIOR OF THE UNITED STATES

THE oriental rat flea, *Xenopsylla cheopis* (Rothschild), which is the chief transmitter of bubonic plague to man, was first reported from the interior of the United States by Roudabush and Becker.<sup>1</sup> They took many specimens of this flea during the year 1934 from rats shot on the dumping grounds of the city of Ames, Iowa. Next it was reported from the Middle West by Owen,<sup>2</sup> who found a dairy barn at the University of Minnesota Farm, St. Paul, heavily infested. The present writers now report the occurrence of this flea from two additional mid-western states, Illinois and Ohio.

Among the fleas in the collection of the Illinois State Natural History Survey were found eleven females and six males of *Xenopsylla cheopis*, which were taken by M. D. Farrar at Urbana, Illinois, on December 1, 1937, in elevator refuse. The Ohio record is based upon three females and three males sent in for identi-

<sup>1</sup> R. L. Roudabush and E. R. Becker, *SCIENCE*, 80: 97, 1934.

<sup>2</sup> W. B. Owen, *Jour. Parasitology*, 22: 512, 1936.

fication from Youngstown, Ohio. They were taken in an office on August 10, 1938, by E. A. Berglund, and were reported to be biting men and causing considerable discomfort.

Opinion has held that this tropical rat flea can not flourish in temperate climates. Its presence for years in large numbers in the warmer port cities of the United States without being recorded from the interior of our country would appear to have justified such a conclusion. However, being now known from four of our central states, Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois and Ohio, a revision of such an opinion appears to be necessary. There is a possibility that a more resistant race of this flea has been developed in some of our northern ports, such as New York and Boston, and from there has spread to the Central States.

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## SCORPION STINGS

I HAVE read with much interest the contribution by H. L. Stahnke on "The Venomous Effects of Some Arizona Scorpions" in the issue of August 19. A brief account of personal experience may have interest.

About 20 years ago I was stung on the top of my right foot, just at the base of the little toe, at about 10 o'clock at night. A small red spot appeared and pain began promptly, increased in volume, and soon the entire foot seemed to ache. There was only slight swelling then or later. The pain gradually diminished during the following day.

The most pronounced effect was what appeared to be a nervous reaction. As I naturally am a heavy sleeper and was tired physically, I do not know what happened during the night. The next morning, however, the tips of my fingers, toes and ears and the point of my nose and my chin throbbed and twitched noticeably. There was a slight itching sensation and also somewhat the same feeling that a foot has after being "asleep."

The twitching was a definite muscular reaction, and the extremities actually moved spasmodically. This continued during the first day but gradually diminished during the course of the second day after the stinging.

After the attack, the scorpion retreated into a deep crevice in an unfinished portion of the room and could be seen but not captured. It appeared to be about 3½ inches long. This occurred at the Federal Plant Industry Field Station near San Antonio, Texas.

It should be noted that I am markedly resistant to some poisons. I am practically immune from poison ivy infection, very resistant to local anesthetics and

but little troubled by mosquitoes and fleas or flies. On the other hand, I am susceptible to nettle stings and very susceptible to "chigger" bites if preventive treatments are not employed. I have never been bitten by poisonous snakes, tarantulas or spiders, nor stung by

bees or hornets, although prowling out of doors most of my life.

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## QUOTATIONS

### THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

AT the April, 1925, meeting of the executive committee of the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the editor and owner of *SCIENCE* offered under certain conditions to let the journal, which since 1900 had been the official organ of the association, become its absolute property. The plan was approved by the executive committee, which unanimously voted "its sincere and hearty thanks to Dr. Cattell for his most generous offer." The agreement was put in contractual form by Dr. Roscoe Pound, dean of the Harvard Law School, one of the distinguished fellows of the association, originally elected for his contributions to botany. The contract was executed by the owner of *SCIENCE* and Dr. Pupin, president of the association, and attested by Dr. Livingston, permanent secretary, on July 28, 1925. It was approved by a unanimous vote of the council of the association on December 30, and a committee, consisting of Drs. Pupin, Kellogg and Livingston, was appointed to express to Dr. Cattell the appreciative thanks of the association.

At the annual meeting of the association held in Atlantic City in December, 1936, a similar offer was made in regard to *The Scientific Monthly*, which has been an official journal of the association since 1907 to the extent that it may be received by members in place of *SCIENCE*. The offer was referred to a subcommittee consisting of Professor Edwin G. Conklin, president of the association; Professor George D. Birkhoff, president-elect, and Professor Burton E. Livingston, formerly permanent secretary. This committee reported to the executive committee meeting in New York in April, 1937, as follows:

The subcommittee is unanimously agreed that Dr. Cattell's proposal is a very generous one and that it will be of much present value to the association and may in the future become of still greater value. We, therefore, recommend that it be adopted with hearty thanks and that the President and Permanent Secretary of the Association be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary therefor and to enter into and to execute a contract for this transfer of *The Scientific Monthly* from its present owner to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in conformity with the terms of the proposal of Dr. Cattell dated December

25, 1936, and that this action be reported to the council at the Denver meeting. We also wish to express to Dr. and Mrs. Cattell our sincere appreciation of their great and long-continued services to scientific organization, co-operation and progress.

This report was unanimously approved by the executive committee and was reported to the council at the Denver meeting. In view of this action it was decided last spring to let *The Scientific Monthly* be edited at the Washington office of the association, and Dr. F. R. Moulton, permanent secretary of the association, and the late Dr. Earl B. McKinley, member of the executive committee, agreed to join in the editorship, Ware Cattell remaining as associate editor. Manuscripts and other editorial communications should now be sent to The Editors of *The Scientific Monthly*, Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

*The Scientific Monthly*, then named *The Popular Science Monthly*, was established by J. W. Youmans and the firm of D. Appleton and Company in 1872. In its earlier years organic evolution and natural selection excited controversy and wide public interest; the journal attained much influence and a relatively large circulation. The Appletons published in the United States the works of many British men of science and were able to print in the *Monthly* articles by Darwin, Spencer, Huxley, Tyndall and other leaders. After the death of the elder Youmans and the development of more technical work in science the journal became unprofitable, having been conducted for a time at an annual loss of about \$10,000. It was then sold to the present owner and editor.

The transfer of the journal to the American Association, combined with efficient editorship, should give the country a better journal of general science than it has ever before had. It should greatly increase the membership of the association and have the cooperation of all workers in science. There will be no change in editorial policy, but an endeavor will be made to make the journal not only authoritative, as it has always been, but of greater interest to those educated people who wish to follow the advances and share the spirit of science, the dominant factors in modern civilization.

The undertaking will be much more difficult without McKinley, who was admirably fitted for the editorship of a journal such as *The Scientific Monthly*. His loss with the ill-fated Hawaii Clipper, while collecting