and often fruitless. Negative results are rarely to be found, and the literature could not hold the myriad details of procedure and the rich flow of ideas that pass continuously between investigators working together.

The advantage is not one-sided. The younger investigators can carry on with dispatch those lines of research too numerous, too tedious or too strenuous for the senior scholars. We hope, too, that the students would bring with them a vitality and interest that would stimulate their teachers.

This program is definitely not conceived as a make-work or a post-war employment project, but it could at present serve effectively in reestablishing young scientists released from the armed forces. In a research-saturated environment they can more quickly catch up with new trends and suffer less from the incubus of forgotten techniques and unread literature. With particular regard to scholarships for returning service men, such a program is already under consideration for the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole. Here is an ideal situation for the biologist returning to take up individual research. Among the many investigators he could find an inexhaustible fund of information without being hampered by direct supervision. Others will prefer to work in some unified research project or along with some established investigator.

For the future, however, a plan to increase special research training must include the more normal trend, with funds and facilities continuously available, particularly to post-doctorate students and young instructors. Obviously this will require not only cooperation of research foundations and scientific institutions, but also a willingness of college administrations to allot adequate leave to the younger members of the faculty. They would all profit, not only from the heightened scientific stature of those trained, but more immediately from the energy and originality of youth.

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TRANSMISSION OF TRYPANOSOMA EQUIPERDUM TO THE DUCK

A HIGH degree of specificity for certain hosts is recognized for many parasites. To test the possible transmission of a mammalian parasite to an avian host, mouse blood heavily parasitized with *Trypanosoma equiperdum* was injected intravenously into week-old ducklings. The parasite dose in each case was approximately 500 million organisms per kilo. Four groups of ducks followed for 8 to 12 days showed no microscopic evidence of parasites surviving in the peripheral blood. Two ducks followed for a longer time died on the 14th and 15th day, respectively. The latter showed a high parasitemia of very active organisms. These parasites appeared morphologically the same as those in the mouse. Five mice inoculated with blood from the duck developed fatal parasitemias on the 4th post-inoculation day.

Ten one-week-old ducks were inoculated intravenously and followed for a period of 18 days. Parasites could not be found in the peripheral blood by the 3rd day but reappeared in two birds by the 10th day. Fatal parasitemias developed in these on the 12th and 14th days. Blood from the 8 surviving ducks, showing no parasites after a careful search, was injected intraperitoneally into mice. All mice developed fatal parasitemias by the 8th day, showing all ducks to be harboring the parasite.

The implications of these findings as to possible avian reservoirs for similar mammalian parasites is obvious.

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CRASPEDACUSTA IN MISSISSIPPI

ON August 14 numerous fresh-water medusae were observed in a concrete pool on the campus of Belhaven College in the city of Jackson. In early morning and late afternoon they were so abundant that the water at the west end of the pool was white. Specimens were collected at regular intervals and placed in large and small aquaria in both the Millsaps and the Belhaven laboratories. Some were preserved for further study. They disappeared from the pool on August 31 and from the aquaria five days later. Many of them did not mature.

The pool is 30×50 feet and is about 3 feet deep. It is supplied with water from the city main, and its water is lost only by evaporation. The flora of the pool consists of water lilies, Elodea and an abundance of algae on the sides and on the surface of the "ooze" at the bottom. Among the algae were numerous ciliates, rotifers, oligochaetes, nematodes, Bryozoa and flatworms.

The size of the medusae varied from 0.4 mm (youngest) to 10 mm in diameter. Numerous examinations revealed that all were males. The gonads of sexually mature forms varied in size, but all were very small after the spermatozoa were discharged.

The hydroid stage was found in scrapings of algae from submerged flower pots and from stems and leaves of water lilies, dead or alive. Hydroids were most abundant on small dead stems, but none grew on pine needles. When expanded they were 1.5 mm long and 0.2 mm in diameter. In the laboratory they produced medusoid buds until September 2.