

from spreading." Amoebas circumvent contingencies as they are presented, and the future constitutes a factor in their conduct as it does in that of men.

The following statement by Hyman (9, p. 72) calls for comment: "Kepner and his students conclude that *Microstomum* seeks hydras 'for the purpose' of obtaining their nematocysts 'in order' to use these nematocysts against prey. The question whether *Microstomum* is able to capture prey without the use of nematocysts is not considered by these authors; the lack of this control weakens the whole argument."

Had she read all our papers upon *microstomum*'s nematocysts more carefully, she would have discovered that we had not used the word "prey" at any place, though we had quoted Martin (10) as having used it. It was not our "argument" that these flatworms need nematocysts to "capture prey." They obviously do not need these "guns" ordinarily to obtain food any more than a soldier ordinarily needs his gun to capture food.

In reading our papers recently I was surprised to find that they actually contain some evidence that *microstomum* may use its nematocysts "in order to capture prey." For example, Martin (10, p. 268) found "one of the commonest enemies of *Microstomum* appears to be *Chaetogaster*, which devours it greedily." It is my inference that Martin's *microstoma* must have lacked nematocysts, for several years later we found loaded *microstoma*, living in an adjacent pond, feeding freely upon *chaetogasters*. This suggests that our loaded *microstoma* were using their alien nematocysts in order to capture "one of their commonest enemies" for food.

Finally, we find that we actually recorded two examples in which a *microstomum* had immobilized a

stenostomum by means of nematocyst-wounds and then ingested the wounded prey.

In the face of this evidence, the burden of proof seems to lie upon the shoulders of those who deny that *microstomum* sometimes uses its alien "guns" to capture food, just as a soldier may sometimes use a captured enemy gun to capture the enemy's calf.

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Erratum

It has been called to our attention that in the Nov. 9 issue of SCIENCE (114, 516 [1951]), the death of Professor H. Galliard, of the Faculté de Médecine de Paris, Institut de Parasitologie, was erroneously reported.—Editors.

Book Reviews

Oeuvres Complètes de Christiaan Huygens: Supplément, à la Correspondance, Varia, Biographie de Chr. Huygens, Tome XXII. The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff, 1950. Published for the Société Hollandaise des Sciences, 921 pp.

This volume completes the collected works of Christiaan Huygens (1629–95), one of the great men of science in the seventeenth century, whose many contributions to science include the optical principle that bears his name, the modern pendulum clock escapement, improvement of the telescope and consequent resolution of Saturn's ring, and the analysis of forces in uniform circular motion. This edition was initiated by the Dutch Academy of Sciences in 1885, and the first volume appeared in 1888; Volumes 16–22 have been edited by J. A. Vollgraff, and the preceding ones by D. Bierens de Hahn, J. Boscha, and D. J. Korteweg, respectively. The first ten volumes contain correspondence (both letters by Huygens and those written

to him), the remaining volumes being devoted to special scientific topics—mathematics, probability, dioptrics, physical optics, astronomy, horology, cosmology, dynamics—including annotated editions of his printed works as well as shorter pieces and manuscript notes.

This last volume contains a supplement to the published correspondence, various small items omitted from previous volumes, a bibliography of the material published by Huygens in his lifetime, marginal notes made by him in reading the *Acta Eruditorum*, a facsimile of the bookseller's catalogue of Huygens' library, and a 400-page biography of Huygens by Vollgraff. The latter is a mine of information concerning every aspect of Huygens' life and the development of his thought. Since Huygens traveled widely, was well acquainted with the leading scientists of his day, as well as being keenly interested in scientific questions of every sort, this biography contains an abundance of material for anyone interested