

THE PROPOSED BIOLOGICAL STATION IN GREENLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: It was my pleasure some time ago to communicate to the readers of SCIENCE that the money for the erection of a biological station in Greenland is donated by a citizen of Denmark. I am now able to add further that it is donated by Herrn Justitsraad P. Holck, of Copenhagen. He has donated 35,000 Kroner (about \$10,000) for that purpose, which is the estimated cost, according to Magister M. P. Porsild's plan. It now remains for the Danish government only to appropriate money enough for its running expenses, which, according to Mr. Porsild's plan, will amount to 11,000 Kroner (about \$3,000) a year.

To show the great interest which scientists have taken in Magister Porsild's plan I could mention the numerous articles in Danish, Swedish, German and American scientific journals, and the recommendations from leading biologists and polar explorers, as Professor Fridthof Nansen, Sir Clements Markham, Professors Vanhöffen, von Drygalski, Aug. Warming, K. V. Steenstrup and F. Jungersen, Drs. Gunnar Anderson and Georg Brandes, and many others. In the United States it has been highly recommended by Professors E. B. Wilson, C. O. Whitman, J. Loeb, T. H. Morgan and Mr. Pehr Olsson-Seffer, Ph.D.

Sir Clements R. Markham, president of the Royal Geographical Society in London, says: "Your proposal to establish a biological observatory is, in my opinion, deserving of support. I believe that the science of geography would be advanced by it, and would derive important results. * * * I wish you all possible success in your efforts to secure that result ever."

Professor Dr. Vanhöffen, in Petermann's *Geogr. Mittheilungen*, says: "A kind of biological station was established in Greenland in the time of Holbölls and Rinks, the former remained there eighteen years, the latter twenty years. They were the central figures in the exploration and investigation of Greenland. Especially Mr. Rinks knew the people of Greenland well and we have as a result his classical work, 'Grönland, geografisch und statistisch beschrieben.'" After

a longer description of Mr. Porsild's plan, he states: "It is a very extensive plan that the leader of the future arctic biological station has; but, without doubt, great results are to be expected from such a station."

The north polar explorer Professor Fridthof Nansen says: "A biological station in Greenland will be of immense value for scientific research. Especially the investigation of its fauna and flora can not help to give results of utmost importance to biological science."

As soon as the Danish government has decided to appropriate money for the support of the station I shall publish an article and describe the proposed function and the opportunities offered to investigators in the first arctic biological station.

At present we can only express our sincerest thanks, high respect and gratitude to men of science in foreign countries who have shown their interest in this Danish scientific undertaking, which we hope will add greatly to the universal advance of biological, geological and geographical science.

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY,
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SPECIAL ARTICLES.

THE ASSUMED PURITY OF THE GERM CELLS IN MENDELIAN RESULTS.

CUÉNOT has recently published¹ in the fourth note of his important series of experiments with mice, certain results with yellow mice that are of fundamental importance as bearing on the question of the assumed Mendelian purity of the germ-cells. His results and his interpretation of them are briefly as follows:

Wishing to obtain 'pure' yellow mice, he crossed yellow mice known to be heterozygotes (*i. e.*, containing recessive gray or black in this case). According to the Mendelian formula he should have obtained the following results:

$$CYCG \times CYCG = 1 CYCY + 2 CYCG + 1 CGCG.$$

Yellow Yellow Gray

¹ 'Les Race Pures et Leur Combinaisons chez les Souris,' *Arch. de Zool. Exp. et Gén.*, 1905, Vol. III., Notes et Revue, page cxxiii.