

er Jim, were for many years members of the Abreu primate collection in Havana, and were presented to the Yale station in 1931 by Pierre Abreu. Jim, however, then about 31 years old and considered unsuitable for breeding, was given to the Philadelphia Zoological Garden.

Of Peter's birth, Dr. Yerkes says that it is the prologue to a story which it will

require decades to complete, whose plot features the breeding and other shaping of chimpanzees to specification and the animal's standardization for use as material for research.

"Instead of keeping the animal as it comes from the wild, we purpose to fashion it to maximal usefulness as an experimental object," Dr. Yerkes said.

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bul, Peiping, and Marseille, rather than the old, familiar names Christiania, Constantinople, Peking, and Marseilles.

But Warszawa, s'Gravenhage, Firenze, and Praha are harder. And why? Simply because some of the very editors and authors who have shifted to new names for some places shy away from others, and continue to write of Warsaw, the Hague, Florence and Prague.

Protest, and several practical suggestions, are offered by Prof. Eugene Van Cleef of Ohio State University. (*Science*, May 17).

Pointing out that students are handed text books, atlases, and other reference works which show no accord regarding foreign names, Prof. Van Cleef continues:

"One large commercial atlas shows no old names. Naturally students are bewildered and ask which one of these is correct. They may sit in courses offered by several different instructors, among whom there is no agreement as to the proper form, thus giving rise to further confusion."

Aside from the Soviet Union, which has introduced many names actually new, the "new" names are mostly not new at all, Prof. Van Cleef points out. Post-war nationalism has resurrected a good many of these old-new names. In addition, natives of some countries have begun to request international use of the country's name, without translation.

Decisions Not Known

The U. S. Geographic Board and a British committee have passed upon spellings of foreign place names. But, says Prof. Van Cleef:

"Their deeds are relatively little known among the mass of people, including great numbers of teachers. It is one thing to make these decisions, but quite another to disseminate them."

He suggests, as a remedy, repeated publicity in the public press, to be sought by these organizations regarding their conclusions. All map publishers might also be enlisted to work with them, to the end of establishing common usage of a single form for "each political or natural geographic phenomenon of the earth."

This geographer further suggests that, until the new names become commonplace, they should be written with the old name following in parenthesis. Chicago tried this system, when it changed the house-numbering system, and despite fears that the two numbers—the old one in parenthesis—would be confusing, the double system did the work.

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PHYSICS

New "Yardstick" Suggested To Check Earth's Motion

Prof. Compton Reports Daily Variation in Cosmic Radiation Is As Expected From 669,600 M.P.H. Speed

THE "strong" possibility that science has a new yardstick with which to measure the earth's motion relative to the rest of the universe was conservatively announced by Prof. Arthur H. Compton, Nobel Prize winning scientist. (*Physical Review*, June 1)

The yardstick is the difference in intensity of cosmic radiation which should result from the earth's motion through space, providing cosmic rays originate outside the galaxy of which the earth, sun and the myriad of visible stars are a part.

Reporting in a paper prepared jointly with Dr. Ivan A. Getting of England's Oxford University, Prof. Compton states that existing cosmic ray intensity measurements show a daily variation of just the anticipated type. Prof. Compton, University of Chicago professor, has been visiting professor at Oxford University during the academic year now ending.

Best checks on the earth's motion through space indicate it is rushing along, like a speck of paint on the spoke of some giant wheel, with a speed of 186 miles a second, or 669,600 miles an hour.

Because of this enormous speed, calculation shows that cosmic ray intensity on an unmagnetized earth at sea level ought to be a little over one per cent. greater on the earth's front side than on the back.

Actually the earth is magnetized and by taking this into account it is computed that the daily variation of cosmic ray intensity ought to be only one tenth of one per cent.

Moreover, the maximum effect ought to appear every twenty hours and forty minutes based on star (sidereal) time.

Already, Dr. Compton reports, measurements by Prof. Hess in Germany over a period of a year suggest agreement with calculated cosmic ray intensity curves.

"Though existing data are not of sufficient precision to show the difference," Dr. Compton says, "the predicted effect is of sufficient size to be measurable with some precision by using the more refined meters now in use.

"While we must wait for such measurements before we can consider the effect due to the rotation of the earth's galaxy as established, the agreement with the predictions . . . gives strong presumption in its favor.

"Its existence (the daily variation of cosmic ray intensity) would imply that an important part of the cosmic rays originates outside of our galaxy. If its magnitude is found to be as great as we have predicted, it will imply that practically all the cosmic radiation has an extragalactic origin."

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Soviet scientists are preparing an atlas of world agriculture.

GEOGRAPHY

Geographer Protests Chaos Of Old and New Names

THE BUSINESS of re-naming countries and cities of the world is becoming so confusing to many persons, that one professor of geography is moved to protest the present chaos.

News readers and geography students have dutifully learned to recognize the cities that prefer to be called Oslo, Istan-