

J. T. Patterson Symbols for We are adopting the D.I.S. symbol T for translocations, and in addition are using a subletter A (eg. T<sub>A</sub>) to indicate that the translocation was obtained in the Austin laboratory. We would suggest the adoption of some such system as this in order to avoid confusion.

W. P. Spencer Symbols (1) I favor using the date of discovery in the symbol for the following reasons:

a. This furnishes an accurate record of the total number of recurrent mutations at a locus, whereas by methods now in vogue many apparently identical allelomorphs arising by remutation are probably not put on record.

b. It gives a simple objective symbol with a standard meaning. This avoids the confusion now arising from the diverse symbols used in different laboratories.

c. It focuses attention on the time at which mutations are occurring in different laboratories. My own experience indicates that the distribution of total natural mutations in time is not random.

#### Research Notes

H. J. Muller Balancing of This may be done conveniently in cases where males having the deleted X-chromosome. deleted X are fertile, by crossing attached-X females containing the deleted X to scute-19 males heterozygous for Curly. Curly sons have their scute deficiency covered by the deleted X and by nothing else, and when they are crossed to ordinary females with attached X's, they immediately form a balanced stock, from which the deleted X cannot be lost except through some chromosome rearrangement.

H. J. Muller Triploids Following the construction by Miss Sarah Bedichok of the University of Texas of an improved stock of triploids, from the point of view both of recognition and of partial balancing, I have by a further modification constructed a completely balanced stock. Miss Bedichok's stock contained attached X's homozygous for yellow, and a detached X having the scute-8 inversion together with singed and apricot. Our present stock has the same kind of detached X, but its attached X's are homozygous for the delta 49 inversion and the genes white and spectacled. Diploid females with attached X's are therefore sterile because of spectacled, and those with detached X's are sterile because of singed. Crossovers appear very rarely. It is well, however, to add extra males. A useful mark which I have noted for the recognition of triploids consists in the reduction of the "ventral" bristles (between the bases of the first and second pairs of legs); the great majority of triploids have at least one of these absent, while in diploids (normal for scute) they are practically always present.