

detonation.—E. Bourquelot and M. Bridel: Application of the biochemical method to the study of several species of indigenous orchids. Discovery of a new glucoside, loroglossine. This new glucoside was isolated from *Loroglossum hircinum* in crystalline form. It is hydrolysed by hot dilute sulphuric acid or by emulsin.—A. Bayet and A. Slosse: Arsenical poisoning in industries involving coal and its derivatives. The study of numerous cases of pitch-cancer in a briquette works showed that many of the symptoms strikingly resembled those of chronic arsenical poisoning. Arsenic was proved to be present in the pitch, in the dust floating in the air at the works, in the hair of all the workmen, and in notable quantities in the urine and blood of the greater number of the workmen. Analyses of the blood, urine, and hair of other workmen, living in the same district, but not employed in briquette-making, gave negative results for arsenic. Thus from both the chemical and the clinical examination the conclusion is drawn that the symptoms observed in workmen handling pitch are those of chronic arsenical poisoning.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Joseph Priestley. By D. H. Peacock. Pp. 63. (London: S.P.C.K.) 2s. net.

The Geology of South Australia. By W. Howchin. In two divisions. Division i., An Introduction to Geology, Physiographical and Structural, from the Australian Standpoint; Division ii., The Geology of South Australia, with Notes on the Chief Geological Systems and Occurrences in the other Australian States. Pp. xvi+543. (Adelaide: The Education Department.)

Inorganic Chemistry. By Prof. J. Walker. Eleventh edition, revised and enlarged. Pp. viii+326. (London: G. Bell and Sons, Ltd.) 5s. net.

Elementary Chemistry of Agriculture. By S. A. Woodhead. Pp. vii+188. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 3s. 6d.

Displacement Interferometry by the Aid of the Achromatic Fringes. By Prof. C. Barus. Pt. iii. Pp. 100. (Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington.)

Naval Officers: Their Heredity and Development. By C. B. Davenport, assisted by M. T. Scudder. Pp. iv+236. (Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington.)

Duration of the Several Mitotic Stages in the Dividing Root-tip Cells of the Common Onion. By Dr. H. H. Lauehlin. Pp. 48+plates. (Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington.)

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—K. Ananda Rau: (1) Lambert's Series; (2) The Relations between the Convergence of a Series and its Summability by Cesàro's Means.—G. H. Hardy and J. E. Littlewood: A Fauberian Theorem for Lambert's Series.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 6.—Major A. C. Fuller: The Fullerphone, and its Application to Military and Civil Telegraphy.

MONDAY, APRIL 28.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES, at 5.—P. H. McCormack: Group Insurance.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Prof. Keith: British Ethnology—The People of Wales and Ireland.

FARADAY SOCIETY AND RÖNTGEN SOCIETY (Joint Meeting), at 5.—General Discussion: The Examination of Materials by X-Rays. Sir Robert Hadfield: Introduction of Discussion.—Prof. W. H. Bragg: Radio-metallography.—Prof. A. W. Porter: Abstracts of (a) Investigation of Metals by means of X-Rays, by F. Janus (Munich) and M. Reppchen (Cologne). (b) The Principles Governing the Penetration of Metals by X-Rays, by Dr. G. Respondek (Helensee).—M. H. Pilon and G. Pearce: Apparatus used for Radio-metallography.—Capt. R. Knox and

Major G. W. C. Kaye: The Examination of Timber by X-Rays.—Sir Robert Hadfield, S. A. Main, and J. Brooksbank: (1) Testing the Absorption Power of Different Steels under the X-Rays. (2) X-Ray Examination as Applied to the Metallurgy of Steel. (3) Radiographic Examination of Carbon Electrodes used in Electric Steel-making Furnaces. (4) A Method of Testing an X-Ray Tube for Definition.—Lt.-Col. C. F. Jenkin: The Detection of Hair Cracks in Steel by means of X-Rays.—F. F. Renwick: The Behaviour of Photographic Plates to X-Rays considered in Relation to the Radiography of Metals.—Dr. R. E. Slade: Contrasts in X-Ray Photographs.—M. E. Schneider (Le Creusot): Radio-metallography.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Dr. W. T. Calman: Marine Boring Animals.—Noel Taylor: A Unique Case of Asymmetrical Duplicity in the Chick.—Geo. Jemison: A Chimpanzee in the Open Air in England.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 5.30.—Annual General Meeting.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30.

ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Major H. E. Wimperis: Aerial Navigation.

THURSDAY, MAY 1.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Dr. H. S. Hele Shaw: Clutches.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 5.—J. Small: The Pappus in the Composite.—Montagu Drummond: Notes on the Botany of the Palestine Campaign: I. The Flora of a Small Area in Palestine.—H. N. Dixon: Mosses from Deception Island.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 6.—Dr. C. Chree: Magnetic Storms.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Prof. J. H. Jeans: The Quantum Theory and New Theories of Atomic Structure.

FRIDAY, MAY 2.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.30.—Prof. J. W. Nicholson: Energy Distribution in Spectra.

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 6.—Dr. W. H. Hatfield: The Mechanical Properties of Steel, with Some Consideration of the Question of Brittleness.

SATURDAY, MAY 3.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Prof. H. S. Foxwell: Chapters in the Psychology of Industry.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

The Nation's Debt to Science . . . . .	141
Foundations of Electrical Theory. By J. W. N. . . . .	142
The Advancement of Education. By J. A. T. . . . .	143
Our Bookshelf . . . . .	144
Letters to the Editor:—	
Ionisation and Radiation.—Dr. R. A. Houstoun . . . . .	145
The Whiteness of the Daylight Moon.—C. T. Whitmell . . . . .	145
Refractometers. (Illustrated.) . . . . .	145
The Atlantic Flight . . . . .	147
The Food Requirements of Man . . . . .	148
Notes . . . . .	149
Our Astronomical Column:—	
Changes on Jupiter . . . . .	152
The Origin of Novæ . . . . .	153
Celestial Systems . . . . .	153
Cotton-seed By-products . . . . .	153
A British Geodetic and Geodynamic Institute . . . . .	154
Responsibilities of Botanical Science . . . . .	154
Ophthalmological Training of Medical Students . . . . .	155
Clock Escapements. (Illustrated.) By A. T. Hare . . . . .	155
University and Educational Intelligence . . . . .	158
Societies and Academies . . . . .	159
Books Received . . . . .	160
Diary of Societies . . . . .	160

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