

and other species and genera of African Ichneumonidae.—G. A. Boulenger: (1) A list of the snakes of West Africa from Mauritania to the French Congo. (2) A list of the snakes of North Africa.—The Rev. T. R. R. Stebbing: Crustacea from the Falkland Islands collected by Mr. Rupert Vallentin. Part iii.

Linnean Society, June 19.—Dr. A. Smith Woodward, president, in the chair.—T. A. Dymes: Notes on the life-history of the yellow flag (*Iris pseudacorus*, Linn.), with special reference to the seeds and seedlings during their first year. *I. pseudacorus*, Linn., is a plant of shallow swamps and wet pastures, occurring in many different kinds of soil. Its xerophytic adaptations and its contractile roots are a protection from some of the dangers of the physical world. Its acidity and astringency protect it from being readily eaten, but the larvæ of some insects feed upon it, those of a saw-fly doing considerable damage; a few molluscs resort to it for food. It appears that wild-fowl eat the seeds and the very young seedlings; it is also attacked by a parasitic fungus. This plant hibernates, and the normal minimum for the seeds is about seven months, the maximum being not less than twenty. Flowering in its fourth year, the capsules begin to dehisce in September. There are two kinds of seed, flat and round, and the difference between them has some significance both in dispersal and in germination. Uninjured seeds float for two years or more. The most important of the agents are diving wild-fowl, and the least is the wind; running water plays a very considerable part.—S. L. Moore: A contribution to the flora of Australia. This memoir contains notices of rare and descriptions of new Australian plants preserved in the British Museum.—A. W. Waters: Selenariadæ and other Bryozoa. The paper deals with some cup-shaped or flat forms of Bryozoa, and while the zoarial shape alone is sufficient for generic classification, an examination has been made to see how far other characters run through all or most species.—Dr. E. Penard: Studies on some Flagellata. The author gives the result of his observations on some Flagellata from the vicinity of Geneva.—Dr. W. M. Tattersall: Report on the Stomatopoda and Macrurous Decapoda collected by Mr. Cyril Crossland in the Sudanese Red Sea.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Life and its Maintenance: A Symposium on Biological Problems of the Day. Pp. viii+297. (London: Blackie and Son, Ltd.) 5s. net.

George Westinghouse: His Life and Achievements. By F. E. Leupp. Pp. xi+304. (London: J. Murray.) 15s. net.

Resources and Industries of the United States. By Prof. E. F. Fisher. Pp. ix+246. (Boston and London: Ginn and Co.) 3s. 9d. net.

Heredity. By Prof. J. Arthur Thomson. Third edition. Pp. xvi+627. (London: J. Murray.) 15s. net.

Woman: The Inspirer. By E. Schuré. Translated by F. Rothwell. Pp. vii+166. (London: The Power-Book Co.) 4s. 6d. net.

A Practical Handbook of British Birds. Part iii. Pp. 129-208+2 plates. (London: Witherby and Co.) 4s. net.

The Chemistry and Manufacture of Hydrogen. By Major P. L. Teed. Pp. vii+152. (London: E. Arnold.) 10s. 6d. net.

On Longevity and Means for the Prolongation of Life. By Sir H. Weber. Edited by Dr. F. Parkes Weber. Fifth enlarged edition. Revised and partly rewritten. Pp. xxii+292. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 12s. net.

NO. 2592, VOL. 103]

The Metals of the Rare Earths. By Dr. J. F. Spencer. Pp. x+279. (London: Longmans, Green, and Co.) 12s. 6d. net.

La Tension de Vapeur des Mélanges de Liquides. L'Azéotropisme. By Dr. M. Lecat. Pp. xii+319. (Gand: Hoste, S.A.; Bruxelles: H. Lamertin.) 45 francs.

Practical Vaccine Treatment for the General Practitioner. By Dr. R. W. Allen. Pp. xii+308. (London: H. K. Lewis and Co., Ltd.) 7s. 6d. net.

Descriptive Geometry. By H. W. Miller. Pp. v+176. (New York: J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 7s. net.

Introductory Mathematical Analysis. By Dr. W. P. Webber and Prof. L. C. Plant. (New York: J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 9s. 6d. net.

Irrigation Engineering. By Dr. A. P. Davis and H. M. Wilson. Seventh edition. Pp. xxiii+640. (New York: J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 21s. net.

Annals of the Philosophical Club of the Royal Society written from its Minute Books. By Prof. T. G. Bonney. Pp. x+286. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 15s. net.

Practical Butter-making. By C. W. Walker-Tisdale and T. R. Robinson. Fourth revision. Pp. 143. (London: Headley Bros. Publishers, Ltd.) 5s. 6d. net.

The Doctrine of Degrees in Knowledge, Truth, and Reality. By Viscount Haldane. Pp. 32. (London: H. Milford.) 2s. net.

The Book of Cheese. By C. Thom and Prof. W. W. Fisk. Pp. xvi+392. (New York: The Macmillan Co.; London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 8s. net.

CONTENTS.

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| Sir William Turner | 341 |
| Applied Physiology. By M. G. | 341 |
| The Problem of Individuality | 342 |
| Our Bookshelf | 343 |
| Letters to the Editor:— | |
| Dr. Kammerer's Testimony to the Inheritance of Acquired Characters.—Prof. W. Bateson, F.R.S. | 344 |
| The Food of Rats.—Thos. Steel | 345 |
| Some Recent Atomic Weight Determinations. By Sir T. E. Thorpe, C.B., F.R.S. | 346 |
| The Peace Treaty and Mineral Fields. By H. L. | 348 |
| Notes | 349 |
| Our Astronomical Column:— | |
| Nova Aquilæ | 353 |
| The Parallax of the Orion Nebula | 353 |
| Planetary Nebulæ | 353 |
| Medical Science in the War | 354 |
| Experimental Studies of Selection | 354 |
| Fungus Diseases of Economic Plants | 354 |
| The Fisheries and the International Council. I. By Prof. McIntosh, F.R.S. | 355 |
| University and Educational Intelligence | 358 |
| Societies and Academies | 359 |
| Books Received | 360 |

Editorial and Publishing Offices:

MACMILLAN AND CO., LTD.,

ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON, W.C.2.

Advertisements and business letters to be addressed to the Publishers.

Editorial Communications to the Editor.

Telegraphic Address: PHUSIS, LONDON.

Telephone Number: GERRARD 8820.