

Smithton discovery the authors deal with a mass of data relating to the evolutionary trend of the Nototheria and the structure of the skull. They also deal with a reclassification of the genus. The Nototheria are a group of animals that in Tasmania became extinct late in Pleistocene times. They were generalised, and yet in part specialised. They retained the racial characteristics that can be relegated to five geological periods—that is, from the pre-Eocene to the latest Pleistocene. They show similar developments to those of the perissodactyl ungulates, and, without leaving a single modern representative to carry on their race in totality, they left many characters scattered through their marsupial allies, the kangaroos, wombats, and native bears, which still grace our woodlands to-day. In dealing with the taxonomic data relating to the skull the authors recognise two well-marked groups, namely: Group i., Megacerathine, and group ii., Leptocerathine.—H. T. Parker: Mental efficiency. A study of the results obtained by testing children by the Binet-Simon scale.

Books Received.

The Cactaceæ: Descriptions and Illustrations of Plants of the Cactus Family. By N. L. Britton and J. N. Rose. Vol. ii. Pp. vii+239+xl plates. (Publication No. 248.) (Washington: Carnegie Institution.)

Geometrical Investigation of the Formation of Images in Optical Instruments. Embodying the Results of Scientific Researches Conducted in German Optical Workshops. Edited by M. von Rohr. (Forming vol. i. of "The Theory of Optical Instruments.") Translated by R. Kanthack. Pp. xxiii+612. (London: H.M. Stationery Office.) 2l. 5s. net.

Technical Handbook of Oils, Fats, and Waxes. By P. J. Fryer and F. E. Weston. Vol. i.: Chemical and General. Third edition. Pp. xii+280+xxxvi plates. (Cambridge: At the University Press.) 15s. net.

Commonwealth of Australia. Papua. Annual Report for the Year 1918-19. Pp. 119. (London: Australia House, Strand.)

The Human Atmosphere (The Aura). By W. J. Kilner. Pp. vii+300. (London: Kegan Paul and Co., Ltd.) 10s. 6d. net.

Mathematical Papers for Admission into the Royal Military Academy and the Royal Military College and Papers in Elementary Engineering for Naval Cadets and Royal Air Force. November, 1919, and July, 1920. Edited by R. M. Milne. Pp. 34. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 1s. 9d. net.

Diary of Societies.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY (at Royal Society of Arts), at 5.30.—Major-General Sir F. H. Sykes: Civil Aviation.

CHILD-STUDY SOCIETY (at Royal Sanitary Institute), at 6.—Dr. C. W. Kimmins: The Handwriting of the Future.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Obstetrics and Gynaecology Section), at 8.—The President: Spoon-shaped Depressed Birth. Fracture of the Frontal Bone treated by Elevation.—Dr. M. Kerr: (1) The Surgery of the Uterus Bicornis Unicollis, with a case of Resection of the Uterus followed by two Normal Pregnancies; (2) The Intra-vesical Repair of Inaccessible Vesico-vaginal Fistula.—Dr. A. J. McNair: A Case of Placenta Prævia with Vasa Prævia.—H. Briggs: (Presidential Address). The Female Pelvic Floor. (Neurology Section), at 8.45.—Dr. H. Head: (Hughlings Jackson Lecture), A New Conception of Aphasia.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Clinical Section), at 5.30.—Z. Cope: The Clinical Significance of Shoulder-pain in Upper Abdominal Lesions.

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN, at 7.—R. A. Malby: A Miniature Alpine Garden.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY (at King's College), at 5.
ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (War Section), at 5.30.—Wing-Commander Martin Flack: Medical Requirements for Air Navigation.
MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON (at 11 Chandos Street, W.1), at 8.—Annual General Meeting. At 8.30.—Sir William Hale-White: (Presidential Address), Then and Now.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF INEBRIETY (at Medical Society of London), at 4.—Dr. J. A. Davidson, and others: Discussion on Special Clinics for Inebriates.

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN, at 7.—(Annual Traill Taylor Memorial lecture), Prof. A. E. Conrady: The Present State of Photographic Optics.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

INSTITUTION OF AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERS (at Royal Society of Arts), at 8.—Sir Henry Fowler: Presidential Address.

HUNTERIAN SOCIETY (at Sion College), at 9.—Sir George Newman: The Ministry of Health as an Instrument in Preventive Medicine.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

OPTICAL SOCIETY (at Imperial College of Science and Technology), at 7.30.—H. A. Hughes and P. F. Everitt: The Field of View of a Galilean Telescope.—B. K. Johnson: The Calibration of the Divided Circle of a Large Spectrometer.

INSTITUTION OF AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERS (at 28 Victoria Street), at 8.—Graduates Meeting. Messrs. Chatterton and Watson: Factors affecting Power Output.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Neurology Section), at 8.30.—Dr. E. S. Reynolds: (Presidential Address), The Causes of Nervous Disease.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS (Indian Section), at 4.30.—T. M. Ainscough: British Trade with India.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, at 5.—Prof. A. Keith: Demonstration on the Contents of the Museum.

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN, at 7.—A. Keighley: An Evening in Lakeland.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Electro-Therapeutics Section), at 8.30.—S. Gilbert Scott: Presidential Address.

SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE, at 8.30.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY (at Guy's Hospital), at 4.

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