

the present proposal. But no details are given, and the fact that some of the signatories in favour of the new and unknown scheme have been on a syndicate for twelve months charged to prepare a suitable scheme, and have so far failed to meet their own and their friends' requirements, does not inspire much confidence in their future operations. The results of the vote and a forecast of the later developments will appear in the next issue of NATURE.

DR. J. N. PRING, reader in electro-chemistry, University of Manchester, has been appointed head of the Physical Chemistry Branch, Research Department, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich.

SIR RICHARD GREGORY will deliver an address on "Scientific Fact and Popular Fallacy" to the students of the Journalism Diploma course at the University of London, South Kensington, S.W.7, on Monday, December 13, at 5 p.m. The chairman will be Prof. C. H. Lees.

IN connection with the London County Council lectures for teachers, a lecture on "The Antiquity of Man" will be given by Prof. Arthur Keith at the Regent Street Polytechnic, W.1, on Saturday morning, December 18, at 10.30 o'clock. The chair will be taken by Major J. E. K. Studd.

THE University College (University of London) Committee will shortly elect a Quain studentship in biology. The studentship is open to past or present students of the college who have taken a course in botany. The value of the studentship is 150*l.* per annum for three years. Candidates should communicate with the Secretary, University College, Gower Street, W.C.1, before December 16.

THE annual meeting of the Geographical Association will be held at the London Day Training College on Friday and Saturday, January 7 and 8, 1921. There will be a discussion on Historical Geography, opened by Mr. J. Fairgrieve and Capt. W. W. Jervis, and one on Geography in Continuation Schools, opened by Mr. L. Brooks and Capt. V. A. Bell. Dr. Unstead will lecture on The Study and Teaching of International Relations, and Dr. Haddon on Racial and Cultural Distributions in New Guinea. The presidential address by Prof. Gilbert Murray will be delivered on the afternoon of January 8.

At a time when almost every university and technical institution in Great Britain has to close its doors to new students because of their already congested condition, it is difficult to believe that any circumstances could justify the extinction of a college which has been a pioneer of the most effective type in the work of technical education. Such, however, is the position of Finsbury Technical College, and a defence committee has been formed to consider the possibility of helping in any way to carry on the work of the college and thus to obviate its contemplated closing in July next. The college was given its distinctive character by Profs. Armstrong, Ayrton, and Perry, who were followed by Profs. Meldola and Silvanus Thompson, and the educational methods they introduced were both practical and sound, with the result that every student who took advantage of the opportunities afforded him was well equipped for his work in life. The college was founded by the City and Guilds of London Institute, and has in every year been worthy of its founders. In the last financial year the expenditure was about 12,400*l.*, of which about 7600*l.* was contributed by the institute and 4800*l.* was received in students' fees. It will thus be seen that the students' fees were nearly 40 per cent. of the income expended, which is a much

higher ratio than in universities and colleges generally. The average proportion of tuition fees in universities and colleges in receipt of State aid in England and Wales is 28 per cent., and in the United States 10 per cent. Assuming that the City and Guilds Institute contribution is continued, a sum of at least 5000*l.* a year additional is required to enable the college to continue its work, and double that annual amount would not be too much to pay to secure its development. The defence committee has a strong case to put before the City Companies and the public, and it invites all who are interested in the preservation of the college to become members. Applications, with an entrance fee of 2*s.* 6*d.*, should be sent to Dr. Atkinson, Finsbury Technical College, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

Societies and Academies.

LONDON.

Royal Society, November 25.—Sir J. J. Thomson, president, in the chair.—Prof. L. Hill: The growth of seedlings in wind. Mustard-and-cress seeds have been grown on lamp-wicks in a continuous wind of approximately 5 metres a second, and the control seeds in still air. The seeds grown in the wind are stunted and bent, and contain less water, more ash, less protein, and, presumably, more cellulose. To counterbalance the drying effect of the wind the seeds have been irrigated with water, and to balance the cooling effect of the wind due to evaporation this water has been warmed, so that a part of the irrigated wick in the wind has been as warm as, or warmer than, the control wick. By the combining effect of thorough wetting and warming the growth of the seeds in wind has been made much more nearly equal to that of the control. While the right amount of moisture is the most important factor, the cooling of the germinating seeds by the wind is also a factor in explaining the stunting of growth in wind-swept places.—Prof. P. T. Herring: The effect of thyroid-feeding and of thyroparathyroidectomy upon the pituitrin content of the posterior lobe of the pituitary, the cerebro-spinal fluid, and blood. (1) Neither thyroid-feeding nor thyroparathyroidectomy in cats affects the pituitrin load of the posterior lobe of the pituitary body as tested by the action of similar strengths of extract upon the rat's uterus and the blood-pressure of the pithed cat. (2) There is no evidence of the presence of pituitrin in the cerebro-spinal fluid of the fourth ventricle in normal, thyroid-fed, and thyroparathyroidectomised cats. (3) The defibrinated blood of normal, thyroid-fed, and thyroparathyroidectomised cats has no appreciable action on the rat's uterus. The blood of thyroid-fed cats has a greater depressor action upon the circulation of an anæsthetised cat than has the blood of the normal animal. The blood of thyroparathyroidectomised cats has a pressor effect upon the circulation accompanied by contraction of the kidney and a diminution in the secretion of urine.—W. A. Jolly: Reflex times in the South African clawed frog. The reflex times of the homonymous and heteronymous reflexes in the hind limbs of the spinal clawed frog have been measured at temperatures ranging from 14° C. to 30° C. The average heteronymous time (66 observations) is 187 σ (0.0187 second). The average homonymous time (68 observations) is 149 σ . That is to say, the crossed reflex time is longer than the same-side reflex time by 38 σ .—Prof. J. A. Gunn and R. St. A. Heathcote: Cellular immunity. Observations on natural and acquired immunity to cobra venom. (a) *Natural Immunity*.—

The minimum lethal dose of cobra venom for the cat is twenty times that for the rabbit (by subcutaneous injection per kg.). (b) *Acquired Immunity*. When a rabbit is immunised to cobra venom the isolated heart and intestine, perfused with Locke's solution so as to remove the serum, withstand higher concentrations of venom than the heart or intestine of a normal unimmunised rabbit.—L. T. **Hogben**: Studies on synopsis. III.: The nuclear organisation of the germ cells in *Libellula depressa*. (a) The nuclear organisation of the germ cells in *Libellula depressa* is investigated with a view to further knowledge of (i) relation of kinetic processes in premeiotic and meiotic phases, and (ii) bearing of nuclear emission in oocyte upon integrity of chromosome complex in meiotic phase. (b) In the premeiotic telophase the chromosomes spin out into finely granular loops, displaying initially a polar disposition, becoming increasingly more attenuated in the spirophase, and first recognisable individually in the prophase at attenuated convoluted filaments. (c) The Leptotene bouquet is regarded as owing its character to the polarisation of the normal telophase. (d) The behaviour of the "double nucleolus" has been thoroughly studied; the plasmosome is independent of the chromatin organisation of the nucleus.

Zoological Society, November 16.—Prof. J. P. Hill, vice-president, in the chair.—Dr. W. A. **Cunnington**: Fauna of the African lakes, with special reference to Tanganyika. After referring to certain physical and geological features which have a bearing on the subject, the nature of the various animal forms inhabiting the lakes was dealt with. Tanganyika was shown to have a very distinctive fauna, in that (1) it includes many more different types than any of the other lakes, (2) an extremely large proportion of them are not found elsewhere, and (3) certain forms (notably Gasteropoda) are considered to have a marine-like appearance. The view previously put forward which regarded the lake as the remains of an old Jurassic sea was considered untenable, since many of the types thought to be marine and primitive belong to essentially fresh-water groups and show signs of specialisation. The Jurassic hypothesis proves likewise incompatible with recent geological evidence. After discussing various other theories, it was suggested that Tanganyika probably owes its remarkable organisms to a prolonged period of isolation, coupled, perhaps, with the effect of an increased salinity which isolation would involve.—H. F. **Carter**: Descriptions of the adult, larval, and pupal stages of a new mosquito from Lord Howe Island, South Pacific.—Prof. C. L. **Boulenger**: Filariid worms from mammalia and birds in the society's gardens, 1914-15.

Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, November 18.—Mr. Frank Merricks, president, in the chair.—C. **Brackenbury**: An automatic counting machine for checking tram-wagons. At a quarry in which the workmen were paid on piecework, their wages depending chiefly on the number of wagons of material sent to the dump and over the weighbridge, the author devised a simple scheme for registering each wagon as it passed up the incline. The up-line was provided with catch-rails for the purpose of derailing runaway wagons, and as each wagon passed the open switch the wheel-flanges moved the rail. Suitable levers and wires connected the switch with an automatic counting machine situated in the office with the result that every complete movement of the switch-rail registered a new unit on the counter. In this manner both the management and the workmen were satisfied that a correct record of the movements of the tram-wagons could be kept.—H. C.

Robson: Converting high-grade matte in magnesite-lined converters. This paper contains a record of work done at the Spassky Copper Mine, Siberia, where in 1915 two 10-ft. "Great Falls" magnesite-lined converters were installed in place of three 5-ft. acid-lined converters. From the start the new converters were run with the idea of keeping a protective coating of magnesite on the brick lining. This was effected by blowing to white metal a 5-ton charge of matte with flux, followed by a similar amount without flux and 1½ tons of cold matte, the whole being blown to blister-copper. One of the chief difficulties in converting high-grade matte is keeping the tuyères open, especially with slags high in iron and low in silica. From his experience the author can see no reason why any commercial grade of matte should not be treated if correct working conditions be maintained; with matte assaying between 55 and 60 per cent. of copper it was not possible to produce a slag containing less than 6 per cent. of copper. A blister-copper assaying about 98.8 per cent. of copper with a small percentage of sulphur was always produced; attempts to produce copper of a higher grade caused difficulties by the cooling of the charge. The paper contains tables showing respectively the operating data of the converters, analyses of the converter products and by-products, and particulars of the operating temperatures in three trial charges.

Linnean Society, November 18.—Dr. A. Smith Woodward, president, in the chair.—Prof. E. S. **Goodrich**: A new type of teleostean cartilaginous pectoral girdle found in young Clupeids. In the young of *Clupea sprattus*, *C. harangus*, and *C. pilchardus*, about 20-30 mm. in length, the right and left coracoid regions fuse to a solid cartilaginous ventral bar, which becomes bent and again subdivides in later stages. This fusion is probably a specialisation to strengthen the support of the pectoral fins before the complete development of the dermal bones of the pectoral girdle.—Dr. J. C. **Willis**: Endemic genera in relation to others. In a paper of 1916 the deduction was made that in general endemic species of small area were not relics, but species in the early stages of spreading, and much evidence has since been brought up to show the truth of this. It is now proposed to extend this deduction to endemic genera, and to endeavour to show that there is no appreciable difference between a local endemic and an allied genus of wide distribution (of course, working always with groups of genera) other than age. The author has added up all the endemic genera of all the islands in the world, and for comparison also those of (1) West Australia, South Africa, and Brazil (the mainland areas richest in endemics); (2) of Australia, Africa, and South America; and (3) of the world. Examination of the tables thus obtained soon shows that if one takes the families in groups of ten in order according to the number of genera they contain in the world (i.e. beginning with Compositæ and ending with monotypic families), the proportion of island genera to the total is closely the same throughout the list, and the same holds for all the four areas mentioned. Thus the first ten families contain 40.1 per cent. of the genera of the world, 39.4 per cent. of those of Australia, Africa, and South America, 40.5 per cent. of those of West Australia, etc., and 38.3 per cent. (666 genera out of 1582) of the endemic genera of islands. And the approximation is equally close all down the scale, so that the curves produced almost coincide. Comparison shows with equal clearness that the proportional representation among the endemic genera of islands decreases as one goes down the scale. The

first 100 families in the world have island endemic genera in 92, the genera being 12.9 per cent. of the total genera in the families. The intermediate 92 families are represented by 45 only, with 9.28 per cent. of their genera, and the last 100 by 13, with 8.72 per cent.

EDINBURGH.

Royal Society, November 22.—Sir Alfred Ewing, vice-president, in the chair.—Prof. W. **Peddie**: Fechner's law and the self-luminosity of the eye. This law states that the change of visual perceptivity is proportional to the fractional change in the intensity of the light. At weak intensities a term, regarded as constant, has to be added to the intensity of the external light on account of the self-luminosity of the eye. By integration over the whole stimulated part of the retina Helmholtz obtained an expression for the perceptivity which agreed with observation in so far as the general nature of the relation between perceptivity and external stimulus is concerned. There was, however, a measurable difference for a certain range of intensities. A close correspondence can be obtained by assuming that the self-luminosity term in Fechner's expression is itself a simple function of the external stimulus, rising rapidly to a maximum, and thereafter slowly falling to a steady value.—Dr. H. S. **Allen**: Æther and the quantum theory. Although some supporters of the principle of relativity reject the idea of æther, most physicists still employ the æther conception in describing electric and magnetic phenomena. Certain classes of physical facts appear to contradict the laws of classical mechanics, and the quantum theory has been developed by Planck and others to meet such cases. It is argued in this paper that the quantum theory necessitates the physical existence of lines or tubes of magnetic force as discrete entities, and yields a quantitative estimate of what must be the fundamental unit magnetic tube. This unit magnetic tube is determined by the ratio of Planck's constant, h , to the charge, e , of an electron, and is equal to 4.12×10^{-7} c.g.s. units. Consequently, one c.g.s. line (one maxwell) contains 2.43×10^6 "quantum tubes." On this theory æther may be regarded as an assemblage of lines of force in accordance with the representation given long ago by Faraday and Maxwell.

PARIS.

Academy of Sciences, November 15.—M. Henri Deslandres in the chair.—C. **Moureu** and A. **Lepape**: The rare gases in natural gases of Alsace-Lorraine. The natural gases examined included five from petroleum wells of Pechelbronn, one from the Wiltelsheim potash mines, one firedamp from the Sarret-Moselle coal mines, and two from mineral springs (Niederbronn and Soultzmat). The carbon dioxide, oxygen, combustible gases, and nitrogen (including rare gases) were determined and then the nitrogen was analysed separately. The rare gases were separated into two groups: argon with traces of krypton and xenon, and helium with traces of neon. The argon-nitrogen ratios found varied only between 0.91 and 2.48, but the helium-nitrogen ratios varied much more widely, 23.8 to 2.6.—P. **Théodorides**: The thermal variation of the coefficient of magnetisation of some anhydrous chlorides and an oxide in the solid state: the magneton theory. Measurements were made on the anhydrous chlorides of cobalt, manganese, and nickel and on manganous oxide at temperatures ranging between 0° C. and 550° C. For the chlorides of nickel and cobalt the results conform to the magneton theory, but this is not the case for the determinations with manganese chloride and oxide.—R. **de Malle-**

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mann: The rotatory power of tartaric and malic acids in solution. Study of the variations in rotatory power produced by the addition of benzene to alcoholic solutions of tartaric acid; the rotations are to the left for all colours, and the dispersion is normal. In aqueous solution this acid reverses its rotation in presence of calcium chloride, and the dispersion, at first abnormal, becomes normal after a certain quantity of the salt has been added. Malic acid resembles tartaric acid and shows similar variations, but in the inverse sense.—E. **Darmois**: The dispersion of the refraction of hydrocarbons. If n and n' are the refractive indices of a given hydrocarbon for two colours, the difference $\frac{n' - n}{d}$, where d is the density, is called the specific dispersion. For different classes of hydrocarbons the differences in the specific dispersion are sufficiently great to be of service in the analysis of mixtures such as occur in petrols.—A. **Bolland**: The micro-chemical reactions of iodic acid. A description of the crystals obtained with iodic acid and salts of thallium, silver, barium, strontium, calcium, and rubidium.—P. **Fleury**: The catalytic decomposition of an alkaline solution of sodium hypobromite by copper sulphate. The opposing action of iodine. The decomposition of the hypobromite solutions was measured by the amounts of oxygen evolved in 1, 2, and 4 days. As little as 0.25 milligram of copper per litre of solution was found to exert a marked catalytic action. This effect can be completely counteracted by adding small quantities of iodine.—C. **Dufraisse**: The ethylene isomerism of the monobromostyrenes in the lateral chain.—P. H. **Fritel**: The presence of the genera *Gangamopteris* and *Schizoneuta* in the grits of Ankazomanga (south of Madagascar). The presence of these plants indicates a lower level of the Permian in Madagascar than that recognised by M. Boule in the Sakamena Valley.—G. **Bertrand**: Observations on the properties of tear-producing substances and the measurement of their activity. Comments on the method used by MM. Dufraisse and Bongrand in a recent communication on the same subject. There are difficulties in the exact definition of the limiting concentration producing effects on the eyes; moreover, the sensibility of the observer varies with the time of day. The mode of attack by the different irritating substances is not the same in all cases; chloropicrin, for example, acts suddenly, whilst the effect of other substances, of which monochloroacetone is an example, is progressive.—A. **Bach** and Mme. Sophie **Zoubkoff**: Contribution to the study of the indices of the blood enzymes. The estimation of catalase, peroxydase, and etherase in one drop of blood.—E. **Kayser**: The influence of luminous radiations on a nitrogen fixer. Cultures of *Azobacter agilis* were grown under shades of coloured glass and the nitrogen was assimilated by the bacteria determined. The maximum nitrogen assimilation was under yellow and green light.—J. Y. **Heymans**: *In vivo*, as *in vitro*, micro-organisms pass through the walls of a filter.—L. **Léger**: The endogenous multiplication of *Chloromyxum truttiae*.

ROME.

Reale Accademia dei Lincei, June 4.—A. Ròiti, vice-president, in the chair.—S. **Pincherle**: Iterated function of a rational integral one.—G. **Fano**: Surfaces of the 4th order with infinite discontinuous groups of birational transformations, i. The author commences this series of papers with the F/4 containing two skew lines, the first example of the complete study of a group for which Severi's quadratic form is ternary.—G. **Ciamician** and C. **Ravenna**: Considerations regarding the function of alkaloids in plants.—

A. Angeli and C. Lutri: Black compounds of pirrol, viii.—H. S. Washington: Italite, a new leucitic rock. This was discovered by Baron G. A. Blanc and F. Jourdain on the western flank of the volcano of Rocca Monfina in a lava-current more than 100 metres in length.—G. Andreoli: Some functional inequalities leading to developments in series.—T. Boggio: Lines of force in a stratified spheroid.—C. Mineo: Transference of co-ordinates along a geodetic. The formulæ established by the author are applied to a numerical example in geodesy previously calculated by Pizzetti, and are found to agree with his results.—M. Pascal: Resultant pressure on a wing of an aeroplane. This is a solution of a hydrodynamical problem in two-dimensional stream-line motion by means of a conformal transformation.—G. Aliverti: State of contraction of electrolytic metal deposits, i. Stoney's method is applied to test whether the contraction is or is not due to thermic effects.—E. Oddone: Determination of the seismic hypocentre. An empirical formula is established connecting the depth of the hypocentre with the period of the waves of maximum length. As applied to recent earthquakes, this formula gives values for the hypocentric depth of from 9 to 13 km., agreeing fairly well with the known results obtained by more exact methods.—E. Clerici: Pelagosite from Canalgrande (Iglesias). This mineral, which was discovered in the form of encrustations on a cavern excavated by the waves, was found to agree in its properties with specimens obtained from Argentario.—L. Pieragnoli: Pathology of *Ursus spelaeus* from the caves of Equi. These remains, which were excavated by Prof. Carlo de Stefani, were found to be greatly affected by tuberculosis, showing these animals to be liable to the same diseases as man, and this to an extent which may have been instrumental in causing the extinction of the species.—C. Artom: Biology of the genus *Artemia*.—L. Petri: Cause of arrested development of the ovary in the olive. According to Dr. Pirotta, olive-trees could be classified into four distinct types, characterised by the presence or absence of sterile or fertile flowers, flowers with imperfectly developed ovaries, or mixtures of these forms. The author disagrees with Dr. Pirotta's theory, and maintains that the arrested development of the ovary is a phenomenon common to all varieties of wild and cultivated olives, which may be brought about by extraneous temporary causes of recent date. The conditions favourable to the production of the different forms of flowers remain to be determined.—A committee, consisting of L. Luzzatti, G. de Marchi, and R. Pirotta (recorder), presented a report on Dr. Girolamo Azzi's proposals for dealing with meteorological and geographical problems relating to agriculture.

Books Received.

The Principles of Economic Geography. By Dr. R. N. Rudmose Brown. Pp. xv+208. (London: Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Ltd.) 10s. 6d. net.

Infant Education. By Dr. E. Pritchard. Second edition. Pp. xv+226. (London: H. Kimpton.) 6s. net.

Physiology and Biochemistry in Modern Medicine. By Prof. J. J. R. Macleod. Third edition. Pp. xxxii+992+9 plates. (London: H. Kimpton.) 42s. net.

The Yeasts. By Prof. A. Guilliermond. Translated by Dr. F. W. Tanner. Pp. xix+424. (New York: J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 33s. net.

Handbuch der Regionalen Geologie. Edited by Prof. G. Sfeinmann and Prof. O. Wilckens. 20 Heft, III. Band, 1 Abteilung.: The British Isles. By

P. G. H. Boswell and others. Local Editor, J. W. Evans. With an Appendix, The Channel Islands, by J. Parkinson. Pp. 354+plates. (Heidelberg: Carl Winter.)

Nucleic Acids. By Prof. W. Jones. Second edition. Pp. viii+150. (London: Longmans, Green and Co.) 9s. net.

Bolshevik Russia. By G. E. Raine, in collaboration with Dr. E. Luboff. Pp. 192. (London: Nisbet and Co., Ltd.) 1s. net.

London Trees. By A. D. Webster. Pp. xii+218+32 plates. (London: Swarthmore Press.) 15s. net.

Medical Research Council and Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. Reports of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board. No. 10: Preliminary Notes on the Boot and Shoe Industry. Pp. 32+vii plates. (London: H.M. Stationery Office.) 1s. 6d. net.

A Last Diary. By W. N. P. Barbellion. Pp. xlviii+148. (London: Chatto and Windus.) 6s. net.

Ancient Egypt. Part 4, 1920. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 2s. net.

Prevention of Venereal Disease. By Sir G. Archdall Reid. Pp. xviii+447. (London: W. Heinemann, Ltd.) 15s. net.

Science German Course. By G. W. P. Moffatt. Third edition. Pp. xii+270. (London: W. B. Clive.) 5s.

Practical Biological Chemistry. By Prof. G. Bertrand and P. Thomas. Translated from the third edition by H. A. Colwell. Pp. xxxii+348. (London: G. Bell and Sons, Ltd.) 10s. 6d. net.

Highways and Byways in Northumbria. By P. A. Graham. Pp. xviii+380. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 7s. 6d. net.

The League of Nations Starts. An Outline by its Organisers. Pp. xi+282. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 10s. 6d. net.

Diary of Societies.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—Lord Rayleigh: Double Refraction and Crystalline Structure of Silica Glass.—Prof. J. W. Nicholson and Prof. T. R. Merton: The Effect of Asymmetry on Wave-length Determinations.—Prof. T. R. Merton: The Effect of Concentration on the Spectra of Luminous Gases.—Prof. E. Wilson: The Measurement of Low Magnetic Susceptibility by an Instrument of New Type.—Prof. W. T. David: The Internal Energy of Inflammable Mixtures of Coal-gas and Air after Explosion.—Prof. A. McAulay: Multenions and Differential Invariants.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 5.—Prof. R. Newstead: Uganda Biology (Lantern Lecture).

LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY (at Royal Astronomical Society), at 5.—S. Beatty: The Algebraic Theory of Algebraic Functions of One Variable.—F. Debono: The Construction of Magic Squares.—Prof. A. S. Eddington: An Application of the Calculus of Tensors to the Theory of Finite Differences.—Prof. A. R. Forsyth: Developable Surfaces through a couple of Guiding Curves in Different Planes.—J. E. Jones: The Distribution of Energy in the Neighbourhood of a Vibrating Sphere.—L. J. Mordell: (1) The Reciprocity Formula for the Gauss's Sums in a Quadratic Field. (2) A New Class of Definite Integrals.—Prof. G. N. Watson: The Product of Two Hypergeometric Functions.—Prof. W. H. Young: (1) Integration over the Area of a Surface and Transformation of the Variables in a Multiple Integral. (2) A New Set of Conditions for a Formula for an Area.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Balneology and Climatology Section), at 5.15.—Dr. Max Porets: Mud Baths and Nephritis.—Dr. F. Hernaman-Johnson: The Importance of Combined Methods in Diagnosis and Treatment.—Dr. S. Burridge: Some Possible Ill-effects of Barium Waters.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS (at Institution of Civil Engineers), at 6.—Adjourned Discussion on Papers by W. B. Woodhouse and R. O. Kapp on The Distribution of Electricity and Some Economic Aspects of E.H.T. Distribution by Underground Cables.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Neurology Section), at 8.30.—Dr. F. Buzzard: Tabes, its Early Recognition and Treatment.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10.

ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC BIOLOGISTS (in the Botanical Theatre, Imperial College of Science), at 2.30.—Exhibition of Specimens and Short Communications.—W. J. Dowson: Problems of Economic Biology in British East Africa.—Dr. M. C. Rayner: Nitrogen Fixation in the Ericaceæ.