

solubility of sodium chloride in the solution at varying temperatures. The solubility curve was continuous, hence the authors conclude that there is no reason to suppose that the hydrated salt exists as such in solution.—On a new method of preparation of ammonium chloroplumbate, by MM. A. Seyewetz and P. Trawitz. Lead chloride is treated with hydrochloric acid and the calculated quantity of ammonium persulphate. The transformation is very rapid, 125 grams of lead chloride being converted into the chloroplumbate in two hours.—Diaminoethylenic compounds of cadmium, by M. Ph. Barbier.—On some new derivatives of acylcyanacetic esters, by M. Ch. Schmitt.—The methylation and condensation of ethyl glutaconate, by M. E. E. Blaise.—On tetraphenylbutanediol and its products of dehydration, by M. Amand Valeur. This substance is obtained by the action of phenyl-magnesium bromide upon ethyl succinate.—On the distribution in the organism and the elimination of arsenic given medicinally in the form of sodium methylarsenate, by M. A. Mounyrat. The arsenic given as sodium methylarsenate has no tendency to accumulate in the organs, and whatever may be the dose absorbed, only a very minute quantity is retained, this being completely eliminated about the thirtieth day after the ingestion.—On the transformations and the epithelial growths which provoke mechanical lesions of the subcutaneous tissues, by M. Ed. Retter.—The Pteraspis in the Ardennes, by M. Louis Dollo.—The reflex augmentation of the biliary secretion by the introduction of acid into the duodeno-jejunum, by M. C. Fleig.—On the signification of the Cenomanian layer and the fauna of the Maine du Saint-Laurent near Vaches (Basses-Alpes), by M. Charles Jacob.—On the anomalies of gravity in certain unstable regions, by M. F. de Montessus de Ballore.—The action of zinc on the microbes of water, by M. F. Dienert.—Lesions of the nervous system of the newly-born whose mothers are diseased: the mechanism and its consequences, by MM. A. Charrin and A. Lévi.—Regulating apparatus for the circulation of the blood of the newly-born animal, by M. Edouard Meyer.—On the diminution of the intensity of the solar radiation, by M. Henri Dufour. A comparison of the solar observations made with the Crova actinometer during the first three months of the present year with the results of preceding years shows a distinct falling off in the radiation. Thus it would appear that there is present in the atmosphere a special absorbent for solar radiation which did not exist in the six preceding years, and it is suggested that this may be fine dust from the recent volcanic eruptions.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—Some Physical Properties of Nickel Carbonyl: Prof. J. Dewar, F.R.S., and H. O. Jones.—The Electrical Conductivity imparted to a Vacuum by Hot Conductors: O. W. Richardson.—An Attempt to Estimate the Relative Amounts of Krypton and of Xenon in Atmospheric Air: Sir William Ramsay, F.R.S.—On a New Series of Lines in the Spectrum of Magnesium: A. Fowler.—An Inquiry into the Variation of Angles Observed in Crystals, especially of Potassium-Alum and Ammonium-Alum: Prof. H. A. Miers, F.R.S.—On the Dependence of the Refractive Index of Gases on Temperature: G. W. Walker.—Solar Prominence and Spot Circulation, 1872-1901: Sir Norman Lockyer, F.R.S., and Dr. W. J. S. Lockyer.—On the Evolution of the Proboscidea: Dr. C. W. Andrews.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Distribution Losses in Electric Supply Systems: A. D. Constable and E. Fawcett.—A Study of the Phenomenon of Resonance in Electric Circuits by the Aid of Oscillograms: M. B. Field.—Time permitting:—Divided Multiple Switchboards: an Efficient Telephone System for the World's Capitals: W. Aitken.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—The Pearl Fisheries of Ceylon: Prof. W. A. Herdman, F.R.S.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Advantages of Motor-Driven Printing Machines: J. G. Y. D. Morgan.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—Evaluation of the Absolute Zero: Dr. R. A. Lehfeldt.—On Refraction at a Cylindrical Surface: A. Whitwell.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Light: Its Origin and Nature: Lord Rayleigh.

MONDAY, MARCH 30.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES, at 5.—The Mortality Experience of the Imperial Forces during the War in South Africa, October 11, 1899, to May 31, 1902: F. Schooling and E. A. Rusher.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.—Great Problems in Astronomy: Sir Robert Ball, F.R.S.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—British North Borneo: Henry Walker.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—American Locomotive Practice: P. J. Cowan.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Application of Polyphase Motors to the Electrical Driving of Workshops and Factories: A. C. Eborall.

SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS, at 8.—Recent Advances in the Bacteriological Examination of Water: W. H. Jollyman.—The Ash of British Pharmacopoeia Drugs: W. Chattaway and C. G. Moor.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Contributions towards the Life History of *Orina (Chrysochloa) tristis* var. *Smaragdina*: Dr. T. A. Chapman.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—List of Marine Algae collected at the Maldive and Laccadive Islands by J. Stanley Gardiner: Mrs. Gepp (Ethel S. Barton).—The Comparative Anatomy of Cyathaceae and other Ferns: D. T. Gwynne-Vaughan.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Absorption Spectra of Nitric Acid in Various States of Concentration: W. N. Hartley.—The Dioximes of Camphorquinone and Other Derivatives of Isonitrosocamphor: M. O. Forster. Salts of a Mercaptoid Isomeric Form of Thioallophanic Acid, and a New Synthesis of Iminocarbaminethioalkyls: A. E. Dixon.—Discoloured Rain: E. G. Clayton.—Derivatives of *o*-Aminobenzophenone and *p*-Aminobenzophenone: F. D. Chattaway.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 4.—Geographical Education: with Special Reference to Globular Contoured Maps, Globes and Reliefs: Prof. E. Reclus.

RÖNTGEN SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Some Effects produced by Radiations: J. H. Gardiner.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3.

MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Additions to the genus *Streptaxis*: G. K. Gude.—On a New Species of the genus *Xylophaga* from the English Coast: E. A. Smith.—Notes on some New or Little Known Members of the Family Dorididae: Sir Charles Elliot.—On a New Species of *Cerastus* from near Aden, with a Note on *Otopoma clausum*, Sby.: E. R. Sykes.—Descriptions of Two Supposed New Species of *Cyathopoma*: H. B. Preston.—On Shells Floating on the Surface of the Sea: August Krogh.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Drops and Surface Tension: Lord Rayleigh.

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