

of which is at rest: A. Korn.—A particular case of the problem of *n*-bodies: Thadée Banachiewicz.—The exact significance of Carnot's principle: Louis Fredey.—Lævorotatory lactic acid: E. Jungfleisch and M. Godchot. *l*-Lactic acid is much more easily transformable than the *d*-acid into the (*d*+*l*) acid, and increased care in working is in consequence necessary. The crystallised lævo-acid melts at 27° C., at approximately the same temperature as the dextro-acid.—The cysts of *Gleosporeum* and their rôle in the origin of yeasts: P. Viala and P. Pacottet.—*Stellosphaera mirabilis*, a new larva probably belonging to an abyssal form: R. Köhler and C. Vaney.—The recuperative effects of raw meat after fasting: Charles Richet. Experiments on dogs comparing the recuperative effect after fasting of cooked meat, broth, and raw meat showed that the latter food is the most efficacious.—Study of the variations in the toxicity of the contents of the small intestine: modifications of the blood: MM. Charrin and Le Play.—The tectonic of the massif of the Dent Blanche: Émile Argand.—The geology of Iférouane: R. Chudeau.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Royal Society, December 6, 1905.—Mr. H. A. Lenehan, president, in the chair.—A method of separating the clay and sand in clay soils and those rich in organic matter: L. Cohen.—Latitude of the Sydney Observatory; appendix to a paper on the provisional determination of astronomical refraction, from observations made with the meridian circle instrument of the Sydney Observatory: C. J. Merfield. An alteration in the accepted value ($\phi_0 = -33^\circ 51' 41''.55$) is regarded as unwise until the question is more completely discussed.—Sociology of some Australian tribes: R. H. Mathews. The author stated his opinion that among the social institutions of a primitive people there is none of greater interest and value to the anthropologist than the study of these social systems. He also expressed his conviction that neither "sexual promiscuity" nor "group marriage" has ever existed among the Australian aborigines.—An undescribed species of *Leptospermum* and its essential oil: R. T. Baker and H. G. Smith. "The lemon-scented *Leptospermum*," the species described in this paper, occurs in the north coast district of New South Wales and the southern coast district of Queensland. It is a shrub attaining a height from 6 feet to 12 feet, with erect branches and small, lanceolate, ovate leaves, the flowers occurring in the axils of the leaves on the upper branchlets. The fruits measure about two to three lines in diameter. Its differentiation from described species is based on both morphological and chemical characters, although the former are alone sufficiently marked to warrant its specific rank.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—The Microscopic Changes in the Nervous System in a Case of Chronic Dourine or "Mal de Coit," and Comparison of the Same with Those found in Sleeping Sickness: Dr. F. W. Mott, F.R.S.—On the Relationship between Hemolysis and Phagocytosis of Red Blood Cells: Dr. R. D. Keith.—Upon the Properties of an Antityphoid Serum obtained from the Goat: Dr. A. Macfadyen.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.—The Physiology of Plants: F. Darwin, For. Sec. R.S.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—A New Single-Phase Commutator Motor: V. A. Fynn.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—On Function Sum Theorems connected with the Series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^n/n^2$: Prof. L. J. Rogers.—On Sommerfeld's

Diffraction Problem and on Reflection by a Parabolic Mirror: Prof. H. Lamb.—On Series of Zonal Harmonics: Prof. T. J. I'A. Bromwich.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Some Dietetic Problems: Dr. R. Hutchison. PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—The Velocities of the Ions of Alkali Salt Vapours at High Temperatures: Prof. H. A. Wilson.—Some Experiments on Earth Currents at Kew Observatory: Dr. Harker.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—Preliminary Account of Flash Spectra taken August 30, 1905: Dr. S. A. Mitchell.—Note on Certain Anomalies observed in Radial Velocity Curves: Dr. Alex. W. Roberts.—The Total Solar Eclipse of January 3, 1908: Dr. A. M. W. Downing.—On the Variable Star 38, 1905, RX Andromedæ: A. Stanley Williams.—(1) Discussion of Greenwich Observations of the Sun, 1864-1900: (2) Discussion of Greenwich Observations of Venus, 1860-1900: P. H. Cowell.

MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Descriptions of twenty-seven Marine Gastropoda, and one Scaphopod, from the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman: J. C. Melvill.—Note on *Capulus fissus*, Smith: J. C. Melvill.—Mollusca from a Rainwash, 150 ft. O.D. at Harlton: Rev. R. Ashington Bullen.—Report on a Small Collection of Land and Freshwater Shells from

Uganda, with Descriptions of two New Species of Limicolaria and one of Martensia: H. B. Preston.—On New Species of Polyplacophora from South Australia: W. T. Bednall and E. H. V. Matthews.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Design of a Two-binged Spandrel-Braced Steel Arch: R. Freeman.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Corpuscular Theory of Matter: Prof. J. J. Thomson, F.R.S.

MONDAY, MARCH 12.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Recent Journeys in the Rhodope Balkans: Colonel F. R. Maunsell, C.M.G.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Fire, Fire Risks, and Fire Extinction: Prof. Vivian B. Lewes.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.—Food and Nutrition: Prof. W. Stirling. INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Widnes and Runcorn

Transporter Bridge: J. J. Webster.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—*Probable Papers*: A Discussion of Atmospheric Electric Potential Results at Kew from Selected Days during the Seven Years 1898 to 1904: Dr. C. Chree, F.R.S.—On the Specific Heat of, Heat Flow from, and other Phenomena of, the Working Fluid in the Cylinder of the Internal Combustion Engine: Dugald Clerk.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—The Interaction of well dried Mixtures of Hydrocarbons and Oxygen: W. A. Bone and G. W. Andrew.—The Explosive Combustion of Hydrocarbons: W. A. Bone and J. Drugman.—The Occurrence of Marsh Gas amongst the Decomposition Products of Certain Nitrogenous Bases as a Source of Error in the Determination of Nitrogen by the Absolute Method: P. Haas.—Studies on Comparative Cryscopy. Part IV. The Hydrocarbons and their Halogen Derivatives in Phenol Solution: P. W. Robertson.—The Displacement of Acid Radicles. I. Displacement of the Chloride and Nitrate Radicles: A. F. Joseph.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.—The Physiology of Plants: Francis Darwin, For. Sec. R.S.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—Discussion on the Origin of Gymnosperms: Opened by Prof. F. W. Oliver, F.R.S.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—The Languages of India and the Linguistic Survey: Dr. George A. Grierson.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—How to Improve Telephony: W. Duddell. INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—*Continued Discussion*:

Large Locomotive Boilers. G. J. Churchward.—*Probable Paper*: Petroleum Fuel in Locomotives on the Tehuantepec National Railroad of Mexico: L. Greaven.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Evolution in Relation to Disease: Dr. J. T. C. Nash.

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