

Numerous songs are given, many being songs of cannibals. The volume concludes with a *précis* of each tale. The authors are to be congratulated on the termination of what must have been a laborious piece of work.

The study of the religion and myths of the Koryak¹ is of particular interest, since these people are very little known, and they seem to have been successful in resisting the efforts of the Russians to convert them to Christianity, and to have preserved their primitive religion to a considerable extent.

The Supreme Being occupies an important position in the religious life of the Koryak, but the conception of him is vague. Nothing is known of his world-creating activity, except that he sent down Big Raven to our earth to establish order, and Big Raven is the founder of the world. The One-on-High plays no active part in the myths which occupy more than one-half of the volume; these deal almost exclusively with the life, travels, adventures, and tricks of Big Raven, his children, and other relatives. The value of this record is greatly increased by a comparison of the Koryak myths with Kamchadal, Chukchee, Yukaghir, Mongol-Turk, and American mythologies.

Descriptions are given of the festivals and sacrifices, and customs at birth, death, and funerals; many of the charms and sacred implements, and some of the ceremonies, are illustrated from photographs and drawings.

A. C. HADDON.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGE.—The electors to the Isaac Newton studentships give notice that in accordance with the regulations an election to a studentship will be held in the Lent term, 1907. These studentships are for the encouragement of study and research in astronomy (especially gravitational astronomy, but including other branches of astronomy and astronomical physics) and physical optics. The studentship will be tenable for the term of three years from April 15, 1907. The emolument of the student will be 200l. per annum, provided that the income of the fund is capable of bearing such charge. Candidates for the studentship are invited to send in their applications to the Vice-Chancellor between January 16 and 26, 1907, together with testimonials and such other evidence as to their qualifications and their proposed course of study or research as they may think fit.

The State medicine syndicate reports that it has held two examinations in tropical medicine and hygiene during the past year. At the January examination six candidates presented themselves, three of whom passed and received diplomas. At the August examination eleven candidates presented themselves, of whom ten passed and received diplomas. The syndicate proposes to contribute out of the funds in its hands the sum of 150l. annually as part of the stipend of the reader in hygiene.

Mr. Ernest Gardner, M.P., has been appointed a member of the board of electors to the professorship of agriculture, and Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., an additional member of the board of agricultural studies.

The following have been appointed examiners for the natural sciences tripos:—physics, Mr. C. T. R. Wilson and Mr. J. A. McClelland; chemistry, Dr. Fenton and Mr. H. B. Baker (Oxford); mineralogy, Mr. A. Hutchinson and Mr. H. L. Bowman (Oxford); geology, Mr. P. Lake and Mr. E. J. Garwood; botany, Mr. F. F. Blackman and Mr. A. G. Tansley; zoology, Prof. E. W. MacBride and Mr. R. C. Punnett; physiology, Mr. F. G. Hopkins and Dr. T. G. Brodie (London); and human anatomy, Mr. T. Manners-Smith and Dr. A. Robinson (Victoria).

The Mark Quoted exhibition of 60l. a year for three years ending Christmas, 1909, has been awarded to F. A. Potts, of Trinity Hall, assistant to the superintendent of the museum of zoology.

THE honorary degree of LL.D. has been conferred upon Sir W. H. Perkin, F.R.S., by the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

¹ "The Koryak, Religion and Myths." By Waldemar Jochelson. Jesup North Pacific Expedition, vol. vi. part i., 1905.

A NEW building for the engineering department of the University of Pennsylvania was formally dedicated on October 19, and is said to be the largest and best equipped structure devoted to engineering education in the United States. The cost, including equipment, was 200,000l.

THE council of University College, London, has received from the committee and subscribers of the Carey Foster Testimonial Fund the sum of 143l. to be applied in the award of an annual prize in physics, to be known as the Carey Foster research prize. This fund is the balance of that raised for the portrait of Dr. Carey Foster which was presented to the council in July last.

We learn from *Science* that the Georgia Legislature has appropriated 20,000l. to erect and equip a building for the Agricultural College, and that the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University has received a gift of 6000l. for the foundation of six agricultural scholarships. Our contemporary also states that the University of Florida has been removed during the summer from its former position at Lake City to new grounds and new buildings at Gainesville, Fla. The new grounds comprise a tract of five hundred acres just outside the city limits of Gainesville.

IN his report for 1906 on secondary education in Scotland, Dr. J. Struthers, the secretary to the Scotch Education Department, devotes a section to the teaching of science. After directing attention to the satisfactory progress made in the secondary schools of Scotland in developing a sound and well-considered course of experimental science, the secretary remarks on a common mistake in the practice of science teachers in allowing inadequate time for the discussion of experimental exercises. As one of the inspectors reported to the Department, "unless frequent occasions are afforded for conference on class results, divergences, and conclusions, the work is apt to degenerate into a series of more or less isolated operations in which the pupils are found, not only lacking in their grasp of the subjects of study, but deficient in their knowledge of the units they are using and in their understanding of the constants they have determined." This failing is not confined to Scottish schools, and teachers would do well to take every precaution that the experiments do not degenerate into mere recipes unintelligently worked through by the pupils. Unless the pupils acquire a comprehensive idea of the meaning of series of connected experiments, they are obtaining little help in learning how to employ scientific methods.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

LONDON.

Royal Society, June 21.—"Experimental Evidence of Ionic Migration in the Natural Diffusion of Acids and of Salts.—Phenomena in the Diffusion of Electrolytes." By R. G. Durrant. Communicated by W. A. Shenstone, F.R.S.

Conclusions.—The results as given in the present paper appear to afford a considerable body of data tending to support the theory of Nernst and Planck.

So far as the author is aware, the method of studying band boundaries has been almost entirely confined to experiments in which batteries have been employed, as in the work of Orme Masson and of Steele.

The earlier experiments in jellies and the later experiments with silver nitrate and calcium chloride show that very fairly sharp bands are obtainable without batteries.

The evidence goes to show that hydrogen ions move in advance of the diffusion front, whereas other ions produce their various "effects" in the rear of the diffusion front.

Entomological Society, October 3.—Mr. F. Merrifield, president, in the chair.—*Exhibitions.*—Commander J. J. Walker: A specimen of *Calosoma sycophanta* taken in Denny Wood, New Forest, June 16; *Lygaeus equestris*, L., found in the Isle of Sheppey on September 22; *Sitaris muralis*, taken near Oxford in August by Mr. A. H. Hamm; varieties of *Vanessa urticae*, *Argynnis adippe*, *Lycaena icarus*, ♂, and of an almost black form of *Strenia clathrata* occurring at Streatley, Berks, in August—all