

bromanilines were prepared by the bromination of the corresponding anilines; the series contains the bromophenyl and methyl groups with the ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, and isoamyl groups. The isopropyl compound is a solid; the others are oils. The bases were characterised by means of their picrates, and the quaternary compounds formed by addition of methyl iodide.—Some new platino-cyanides: L. A. **Levy**. In continuation of previous researches upon the fluorescence of platino-cyanides (*Trans. Chem. Soc.*, January, 1906), the author prepared uranyl, guanidine, and nitron platino-cyanides, which were briefly described.—The resolution of salts of asymmetric nitrogen compounds and weak organic acids: Miss A. **Homer**. With a view to find out whether optically active nitrogen compounds could be used for the resolution of weak organic acids, that is, for those cases where a strong base is required, tartaric acid was treated with a solution of phenyl benzyl isopropyl ammonium hydroxide prepared from the iodide, equimolecular quantities of acid and base being used. A well-formed crystalline substance was obtained which on analysis proved to be the acid tartrate of the base used.—A new coloured fluorescent hydrocarbon: Miss A. **Homer**. A new hydrocarbon has been isolated from the products obtained by the action of aluminium chloride on naphthalene at 100° C., to which the formula $C_{26}H_{22}$ and the name tetramethyl erythrene have been assigned.—Notes on the proportion of the sexes in dogs: W. **Heape**. The results show a remarkable similarity in the proportion of the sexes born by greyhounds, collies, and large dogs as a whole, while in terriers there is sufficient difference from the above to show that distinct racial variation occurs. It is assumed from a variety of known facts that ova and spermatozoa are themselves sexual, and that the latest moment when the sex of the offspring can be determined is at the time of fertilisation.—Preliminary note upon the presence of phosphorus in crystalline egg albumin: Miss E. G. **Willcock** and W. B. **Hardy**.—The natural units of mass, length, and time: H. C. **Pocklington**.—The variation of the absorption bands of a crystal in a magnetic field: W. M. **Page**. An attempt is made to give a theoretical explanation of some observations made by M. Jean Becquerel in the behaviour of the absorption bands of certain uniaxial crystals in a magnetic field.

DUBLIN.

Royal Irish Academy, February 25.—Dr. F. A. Tarleton, president, in the chair.—The lower Palaeozoic rocks of Pomeroy: W. G. **Fearnside**s, Dr. Gertrude L. **Elles**, and B. **Smith**. The paper gives an account of the application of the modern zonal methods to a district made classic by Portlock so long ago as 1845. The beds developed are divided into the Desertcreat group, the Little River group, and the Corrycroar group, and are the equivalents of the Ashgillian, the Llandoverly, and the Tarannon groups of Great Britain. Of these the two lower groups are considered in detail, and are considerably subdivided. The Desertcreat group rests unconformably upon the ancient hornblende and granitic rocks to the north, and is of a shelly or trilobite bearing type corresponding to the contemporaneous rocks of Girvan; its upper beds contain also a few graptolites and the interesting *Aeglina rediviva*. The Little River group follows conformably, and, like the rocks of Moffat, is wholly graptolitic. The rocks are much folded on the isoclinal plan, and the total thickness of the two groups mentioned can hardly exceed 600 feet. Notes on the correlation with other areas and descriptions of certain interesting trilobites are appended. The paper is illustrated by a map and sections.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4.

CIVIL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS' SOCIETY, at 8.—Steam Traps: Gordon Stewart.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5.

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, at 8.—On the Existence of the Alpine Vole, *Microtus nivalis*, in Britain during Pleistocene Times: M. A. C. Hinton.

MONDAY, APRIL 8.

SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—Research Meeting: The Problems of Cities: Prof. Geddes.

VICTORIA INSTITUTE, at 4.30.—Plant Distribution from an Old Stand-point: Dr. H. B. Guppy.

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, at 8.—Observations on Cotton and Nitrate Cotton: H. de Moseenthal.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Wings and Aeroplanes: Prof. G. H. Bryan, F.R.S.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—*Adjourned discussion*:—The Application of Hydro-Electric Power to Slate Mining: M. Kellow.—Electrically Driven Winding Gear and the Supply of Power to Mines: A. H. Preece.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10.

SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS, at 8.—The Bacterial Estimation of Phenol and Cresol: M. Wynter Blyth and L. Goodban.—A New Method for the Estimation of Tartaric Acid: Alfred C. Chapman and Percy Whitteridge.—The Detection of Coconut Oil in Butter: E. Hinks.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Odonata collected by Lieut.-Colonel Nurse, chiefly in North-Western India: Kenneth J. Morton.

SOCIETY OF ARTS at 8.—Arts and Industries in Hungary in Ancient and Modern days: L. Felberman.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Birth and Affinities of Crystals: Prof. Henry A. Mier, F.R.S.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Conservation of Historic Buildings and Frescoes: Prof. A. H. Church, F.R.S.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—An Engineer's Visit to Japan and Canada: R. W. Allen.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 5.

MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Notes on New Zealand Polyplacophora, with Descriptions of Five New Species: H. Suter.—Descriptions of New Mollusca from New Caledonia: G. B. Sowerby.—Some New Species of Drymaeus from Peru, Mexico, &c.: S. I. Da Costa.—A New Species of Vallonia from India: G. K. Gude.

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—*Continued discussion*:—Petrol Motor-Omnibuses: W. Wrcby Beaumont.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Studies in Magnetism: Prof. Silvanus P. Thompson, F.R.S.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Chemical Crystallography. By Dr. A. E. H. Tutton, F.R.S.	529
A New Work on Organic Evolution. By A. D. D.	530
Electric Railways	531
Our Book Shelf:—	
Da Cunha: "L'Année technique," 1906	532
"Diseases of Fruit and Fruit-bearing Plants"	532
Petrovitch: "La Mécanique des Phénomènes fondée sur les Analogies"	533
Reeve: "The Steam-Table. A Table of the Thermal and Physical Properties of Saturated Steam Vapour and of the Specific Heat of Water"	533
Letters to the Editor:—	
Ionisation by Spraying.—A. S. Eve	533
On the Extinct Emeu of the Small Islands off the South Coast of Australia and probably Tasmania.—Prof. Henry H. Giglioli	534
Mean or Median. (With Diagram.)—G. Udny Yule	534
Golden Carp attacked by a Toad.—Prof. Adrian J. Brown	534
The Atomic Weight of Nickel.—F. E. Hackett	535
Light Sense-Organs in Xerophilous Stems. (Illustrated.)—R. J. D. Graham	535
The Living Welwitschia. (Illustrated.) By Prof. H. H. W. Pearson	536
The Art of Embalming in Ancient Egypt	537
Astronomical Refraction	538
Notes	539
Our Astronomical Column:—	
Comet 1907a (Giacobini)	544
Ephemeris for the Minor Planet (588) [1906 T.G.]	544
Search-ephemeris for Comet 1900 III. (Giacobini)	544
The Solar Eclipse of January 13	544
Man's Place in the Universe	544
The Astronomical Society of Antwerp	544
Wireless Telegraphy in Longitude Determinations	544
Ancient Chinese Astronomy	544
Public Health. By Prof. R. T. Hewlett	544
Pulsation in Animals. (Illustrated.) By J. A. T.	545
The Weather and the Crops.	545
Flame the Working Fluid in Gas and Petrol Engines. By Dugald Clerk	546
University and Educational Intelligence	548
Societies and Academies	549
Diary of Societies.	552