

finding of an old land surface, with a mangrove fauna and fresh-water flora, at a depth of about 52 feet below high water, at Narrabeen, on the Manly-Pittwater Road. Details of this bore, put down by the authors, assisted by university students, in 1904, are given, and the conclusion arrived at that in this bore we have direct and positive evidence of a submergence of the coast-line, in the vicinity of Sydney, within very recent geological time.

Linnean Society, September 30.—Mr. T. Stead, vice-president, in the chair.—Some remarkable Australian Libellulinae, part ii., descriptions of new species: R. J. Tillyard. The tendency of the Libellulinae found in tropical Australia appears to be gradual simplification along the following lines:—abolition of superfluous nervures, loss of pruinescence, decrease in size, simplification of colour-pattern, and contraction and intensification of dark pigmentation of the wings. Eight species are added to the Australian list, of which six are proposed as new.—The life-history of *Lovanthus exocarpi*, Behr.: C. C. Brittlebank.—Geological notes on Kosciusko, with special reference to glacial action: Prof. T. W. Edgeworth David. The gneissic granites of Cooma have been proved to pass in places into coarse mica-schists, and the series is classed provisionally as pre-Cambrian. Fossiliferous Ordovician rocks have been found to occur near Berridale. The origin of Lake Coolamatong is attributed to a downthrow fault. The total area covered by the ice calotte of Kosciusko was probably from 80 to 100 square miles. The ice-cap was fully twelve times as large, and at least double the thickness, formerly estimated, while the snow-line was quite 300 feet lower than at present, involving a lowering of the mean temperature by about 10° F. In more recent geological time there was another period of glaciation, during which Lakes Cootapatamba and Albina, the Blue Lake, &c., were formed.—Opsonisation from a bacterial point of view, and opsonic technique: Dr. R. Greig-Smith. It was found that a two days' culture of *Staphylococcus aureus* is more completely opsonised than younger or older cultures; the intraphagocytic digestion is the greater the older the culture; there is no auto-opsonic action manifest in moderately old cultures; races of different ages are opsonised to the same extent; bacteria grown upon agar are more easily opsonised than bacteria from bouillon-cultures.—Revision of the Australian Curculionidae belonging to the subfamily Crvptorhynchides, part ix.: A. M. Lea. The ninth instalment of the revision deals with the genus *Chætectétorus* and some of its allies, of which eleven genera, including four proposed as new, and twenty species, including eight proposed as new, are described.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—Some Experiments made to test the Action of Extract of Adrenal Cortex: S. G. Shattock and C. G. Seligmann.—Further Results of the Experimental Treatment of Trypanosomiasis; being a Progress Report to a Committee of the Royal Society: H. G. Plimmer and Captain H. R. Bateman, R.A.M.C.—A Trypanosome from Zanzibar: Colonel Sir David Bruce, C.B., F.R.S., and Captains A. E. Hamerton, D.S.O., and H. R. Bateman.—The Proportion of the Sexes produced by Whites and Coloured Peoples in Cuba: W. Heape, F.R.S.—Further Researches on the Etiology of Endemic Goitre: Captain R. McCarrison, I.M.S.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Domestic Electricity Supply (including Heating and Cooking) as affected by Tariffs: W. R. Cooper.

SOCIETY OF DYERS AND COLOURISTS, at 8. Reaction between Picric Acid and Fibre Colloid: W. P. Dreaper and W. Sticks.—Colouring Matters in Sole Leather: H. G. Crockett.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—A Graphic Method of dealing with Refracting Surfaces: H. S. Allen.—A Method of Determining Moments of Inertia: The late Prof. W. Cassie.—An Experimental Examination of Willard Gibbs's Theory of Surface Condensation regarded as the Basis of Adsorption: W. C. M. Lewis.—On the Diffusion of Actinium and Thorium Emanations: S. Russ.—On the Elliptic Polarization produced by the Direct Transmission of a Plane Polarised Stream through a Plate of Quartz cut in a Direction Oblique to the Optic Axis, with a Method of Determining the Error of a Plate supposed to be Perpendicular to the Axis: James Walker.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28.

ESSEX FIELD CLUB, at 6 (at the Essex Museum of Natural History, Stratford.)—Report of Club's Delegate at Corresponding Societies Committee, British Association, Belfast: Prof. E. G. Coker.—The Re-afforestation of Hainhault: Francis Dent and T. S. Dymond.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—The Panama Canal in 1908: Dr. Vaughan Cornish.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Twenty Years' Progress in Explosives: Oscar Guttman.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES, at 5.—Inaugural Address by the President, G. F. Hardy.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Further Discussion: Glasgow Central Station Extension: D. A. Matheson.—Possible Paper: The Rotherhithe Tunnel: E. H. Tabor.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2.

SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS, at 8.—The Gravimetric Estimation of Antimony and Tin: E. Cahen and Dr. G. T. Morgan.—The Oil from Carapa Guianensis: Dr. J. Lewkowsch.—The Detection and Estimation of Formaldehyde in Milk: H. S. Shrewsbury and A. W. Knapp.—The Determination of Aldehydes in Oil of Lemon: A. H. Bennett.—Some Analyses of Cream Cheese: C. H. Cribb.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—The Geological Interpretation of the Earth-movements Associated with the Californian Earthquake of April 18, 1906: R. D. Oldham.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Mechanical Flight: E. S. Bruce. ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—Biscayan Plankton, the Ostracoda: Dr. G. Herbert Fowler.—Note on *Juniperus taxifolia*, Hook. and Arm.: Bunzo Hayata.—Mimicry in Spiders: R. I. Pocock.

RÖNTGEN SOCIETY, at 8.15.—Phenomena observed in Electrical Currents of Continuous Oscillation: Dr. H. Manders.

CIVIL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS' SOCIETY, at 8.—The Influence of Track upon Railway and Tramway Carriages: J. S. Warner.

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