

## PARIS.

**Academy of Sciences**, March 29.—M. H. Poincaré in the chair.—Paul **Sabatier** and A. **Mailhe**: The mechanism of the dehydration of alcohols by the catalytic action of various metallic oxides. The action of sulphuric acid and of metallic oxides upon alcohols at various temperatures is compared, and the possibility of the formation of a compound of the oxide and alcohol analogous to ethylsulphuric acid considered.—M. **Carpentier**: A description of a new electrical measuring instrument, the logometer.—Charles **Nordmann**: Remarks on a preceding communication.—G. **Denigès**: The detection of methyl alcohol in general, and especially in the presence of ethyl alcohol. The method, full details of which are given, is based on oxidation by potassium permanganate in dilute sulphuric acid solution. Formaldehyde is produced, and is detected by fuchsin decolorised by sulphurous acid.—P. **Yvon**: Aniline arsenyl tartrate. Details of the preparation and physical properties.—A. **Guilliermond**: New observations on the cytology of yeasts. The results of the experiments given are entirely opposed to the views put forward by Wager and Peniston.—M. **Dugaet**: The presence of boron in Algerian wines. All the Algerian wines examined, of known origin and purity, were found to contain boron.—E. **Chuard**: A new method of treating for mildew by oxochloride of copper. The substitution of the oxochloride of copper for the mixtures of copper sulphate and lime reduces the amount of copper used to one-half.—Maurice **Gignoux**: The classification of the Pliocene and the Quaternary in southern Italy.—Jules **Welsch**: The formation of the Poitevin Marais and the separation of the "islands" of Ré and Oleron.

## DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 7.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Himalayan Region: Dr. Tom G. Longstaff.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—Elm-seedlings showing Mendelian Results: A. Henry.—On the Foraminifera and Ostracoda from Soundings, chiefly deep-water, collected round Funafuti by H. M. S. *Penguin*: F. Chapman.

RÖNTGEN SOCIETY, at 8.15.—Some methods of using the Alternating Current Mains for Röntgen Ray Work: Dr. G. B. Batten.—Treatment of X-Ray Dermatitis by Radium: Mackenzie Davidson.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Progress of Electric Braking on the Glasgow Corporation Tramways: A. Gerrard.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 8.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Lowell Observatory: Photographs of the Planets: Prof. Percival Lowell.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Reconstruction and Extension of Egremont Ferry Pier: G. H. Hodgson and H. M. Gell.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—An Experimental Demonstration of the Loading of Artificial Telephone Cables: B. S. Cohen.—Further Tests of Brittle Materials: W. A. Scoble.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—Note to Paper on Star Colours and Spectral Types: W. S. Franks.—*Probable Papers*: Investigations relating to the Spectra of Comets: A. Fowler.—Places of Halley's Comet, 1909-1910, deduced from Photographs taken at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford: A. A. Rambaut.—Proper Motions: Astronomer Royal for Scotland.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 9.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Bells, Carillons and Chimes: W. W. Starmer.

## MONDAY, APRIL 11.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Across Africa from the Niger to the Nile: Dr. Karl Kumm.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Modern Methods of Brick-making: Dr. A. B. Searle.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 12.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Modern Development of the Problem of Alcoholic Fermentation: Dr. A. Harden, F.R.S.

ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, at 8.15.—Charcoal Burning in Epping Forest: S. Hazzledine Warren.—Additional Notes on the British Camp at Wallington: H. C. Collyer and N. F. Roberts.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The New Clyde Bridge of the Caledonian Railway at Glasgow: D. A. Matheson.—The Queen Alexandra Bridge over the River Wear, Sunderland: F. C. Buscarlet and A. Hunter.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—The Port of Dover: A. T. Walmisley.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—The Volcano of Matavanu in Savaii: Dr.

Tempest Anderson.—Notes on the Geology of the District around Llansawel (Carmarthenshire): Miss Helen Drew and Miss Ida L. Slater.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 14.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—*Probable Papers*: On the Viscous Flow in Metals and Allied Phenomena: E. N. da C. Andrade.—The Refraction and Dispersion of Argon and Redeterminations of the Dispersion of Helium, Neon, Krypton and Xenon: C. and M. Cuthbertson.—The Action of the Radiation from Radium Bromide upon the Skin of the Ear of the Rabbit: J. O. W. Barratt.—And others.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Himalayan Region: Dr. Tom G. Longstaff.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 15.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—The Chemical Significance of Crystal Structure: Prof. W. J. Pope, F.R.S.

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 16.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Bells, Carillons and Chimes: W. W. Starmer

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