

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Linnean Society, September 28.—Mr. C. Hedley, president, in the chair.—C. T. **Musson** and W. M. **Carne**: The adventitious roots of *Melaleuca linariifolia*, Sm.—R. J. **Tillyard**: Some experiments with dragon-fly larvæ. This paper embodies the results of experiments carried out with the object of showing:—(1) That dragon-fly larvæ of certain kinds live longer than one year. An unknown Libellulid larva taken at Heathcote on October 10, 1908, and more than half-grown then, has lived in an aquarium to the present date. It now appears full-fed, and may be expected to emerge this season. Its age, from the egg, must be more than two and a half years. (2) That certain dragon-fly larvæ can resist severe and prolonged drought. Eight larvæ of *Synthemis eustalacta*, Burm., were placed in a shallow-water aquarium over sand; no food given from December 25, 1909, and water allowed to evaporate. The aquarium was dry on February 2, and the larvæ were kept alive, hidden in the sand, until May 29, a period of nearly four months. The larvæ were then returned to water and fed up. Seven are still alive, and may be expected to emerge this season.—T. Harvey **Johnston** and Dr. J. Burton **Cleland**: The Hæmatozoa of Australian Reptilia. No. 1. A list of Australian reptiles from which Hæmatozoa have been recorded is given, and three species of Haemogregarina (*Karyolysus*) are described as new.

October 26.—Mr. C. Hedley, president, in the chair.—T. **Iredale**: An additional note on the birds of Lord Howe and Norfolk Islands. The opportunity of inspecting the Watling drawings in the British Museum prompted the author to investigate the authenticity of the early chronicles relating to some of the birds of Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands, now extinct, or the identity of which has never been settled satisfactorily. From the consideration of the historical evidence available, the author concludes that the extinct white gallinule (*Notornis alba*) was restricted to Lord Howe Island; that the "Norfolk Island petrel" of Iatham is probably *Puffinus griseus*, Gm., which still breeds about the typical locality, and not *P. chlororhynchus*, Less., as supposed by the late Dr. Sharpe; and that drawing No. 282, regarded by Dr. Sharpe as representing *P. tenuirostris*, Temm., is undoubtedly a figure of the *Cestrelata* still breeding, or which apparently used to breed, on Norfolk Island, which must bear the name *Cestrelata phillipi*, Gray, and which is different from *C. neglecta*, Schl. Some omissions are rectified, and observations supplementary to those of Mr. Hull (Proceedings, 1909, p. 636) are given.—A. F. Basset **Hull**: Further notes on the birds of Lord Howe and Norfolk Islands, with the description of a new species of petrel. The author endeavours to dispel the uncertainty enshrouding the identification of the petrels of Norfolk Island. Captain Hunter's "bird of providence" remains a mystery, as visits to Mount Pitt in November, and in the succeeding year in August, offered no signs of birds or burrows, a condition of things possibly due to the extermination of the old-time colony, or its removal to more secure breeding grounds. The "Big Hill mutton-bird" of Lord Howe Island, which breeds upon Mount Gower, is shown to be markedly different from *Cestrelata neglecta*, Schl., and is described as new.—J. H. **Maiden** and E. **Betche**: Notes from the Botanic Gardens, Sydney. No. 16.—A. M. **Lea**: Australian and Tasmanian Pselaphidæ (Coleoptera).

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—Reports on the International Botanical Congress at Brussels, 1910: Dr. Otto Stapf, F.R.S., and others.—Non-calcareous Sponges from the Red Sea, collected by Mr. Cyril Crossland: R. W. H. Row.—Comparative Anatomy of Leaves of Veronica: R. S. Adamson.
ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—The Taj Mahal and its Relation to Indian Architecture: R. F. Chisholm.
INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Submarine Cables for Long Distance Telephone Circuits: Major W. A. J. O'Meara, C.M.G.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16.

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Production of Castings to withstand High Pressures: Prof. H. C. H. Carpenter and C. A. Edwards.—The Constitution of Troostite and the Tempering of Steel: Andrew McCance.

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INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Mathematical Deduction of the most Economical Ratio of Reinforcement for Reinforced-concrete Structures: R. N. Mirza.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17.

ESSEX FIELD CLUB (at Essex Museum of Natural History, Stratford), at 6.—Notes on a "Neolithic Floor" near Rayleigh, Essex: W. W. Reader and S. Hazzledine Warren.—Sarsens, Basalt, and other Boulders in Essex: Dr. E. A. Salter.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—The French Antarctic Expedition, 1907-1910: Dr. J. B. Charcot.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES, at 5.—On the Valuation of the Liabilities of an Insurance Company under its Employers' Liability Contracts: W. Penman, Jr.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20.

ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY, at 5.
INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Winning of Coastal Lands in Holland: A. E. Carey.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—The Keuper Marls around Charnwood Forest: T. O. Bosworth.—The Relationship of the Permian to the Trias in Nottinghamshire: R. L. Sherlock.

ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Modern Methods of Research on a Scientific Cruiser: Arthur Earland.

ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 7.30.—(1) Report on Balloon Experiments at Blackpool, 1910; (2) The Meteorological Significance of Small Wind and Pressure Variations: Capt. C. H. Ley.—Atmospheric Waves of Short Period: Dr. Wilhelm Schmidt.

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