

other appliances suitable for use in ships." Apparently the reader is expected to acquire that information from illustrations which seldom show more than the outside appearance of the apparatus, and often show nothing at all but a cast-iron case! There are some more detailed diagrams, but too many of them refer to machines or apparatus which could only now be purchased in the electrical equivalent of the old clothes shop.

The book will certainly enable the sea-going engineer to distinguish between a search-light and a telephone, or between a dynamo and a switch, but we fear he would be very much at sea when anything went wrong if his knowledge was not a great deal deeper than that in the book.

It may be the printer's fault that a very ordinary Welsh name is given as that of one of the celebrated builders of high-speed engines, and that Mr. Marconi's has been associated with his great rivals. But these errors sufficiently well typify much of the contents of the book.

DAVID ROBERTSON.

Die Insekten Mitteleuropas insbesondere Deutschlands. Edited by Prof. C. Schröder. Band iii. Hymenopteren (Dritter Teil) Die Gallwespen (Cynipidae). By Prof. J. J. Kieffer. Die Blatt- und Holzwespen (Tenthredinoidea). By Dr. E. Enslin. Pp. xiii + 213 + viii plates. (Stuttgart: Franckh, 1914.) Price 7.20 marks.

THE third part of the third volume of the "Insects of Central Europe," so ably edited by Prof. Chr. Schröder, of Berlin, contains an account of the gall-wasps (Cynipidae) by Dr. J. J. Kieffer, and of the saw-flies and wood-wasps (Tenthredinidae) by Dr. E. Enslin. In both cases the systematic description is preceded by an effective introduction dealing with structure, life-histories, and ecology. Thus we find a very clear account of the various theories of gall-formation by Cynipidae and of parthenogenesis in Tenthredinidae. The volume is very well illustrated, both as regards the text figures and the coloured plates.

Bartholomew's Orographical Map of Central Europe, showing Political Frontiers. Scale: 31·5 English miles to 1 in. Price 2s. 6d. net. *Bartholomew's War Map of Europe and the Mediterranean.* Scale: 86 miles to 1 in. Price 1s. net. (Edinburgh: John Bartholomew and Co., 1914.)

NOTHING assists an intelligent appreciation of the details of military campaigns more than good maps of the areas concerned. The maps before us are excellent. The first enables the reader of war news to realise the intimate interdependence of strategy and land relief; and the second depicts boldly the present extent of the European territories of the nations at war. Both maps are produced in the workmanlike manner for which the Edinburgh Geographical Institute has long been well known.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

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Soldiers as Anthropologists.

IN NATURE of December 3 (p. 383) there appeared a brief abstract of a paper communicated by Mr. Reginald A. Smith to the Royal Anthropological Institute on behalf of its author, Major E. R. Collins, D.S.O., now a wounded prisoner of war in Germany. The paper is not only an important contribution to our knowledge of the prehistoric stone implements of South Africa, but is evidence that a brave and capable soldier may, while helping to shape the history of his own time, give material assistance in unravelling the past history of the country through which he may be campaigning.

Major Collins collected the material for his paper while engaged on trenching operations during the late Boer war. These operations extended over a large part of South Africa—from Cape Colony to the Transvaal. The trenches were usually cut to a depth of 5 ft., and often crossed terrace deposits, which are presumably of Pleistocene age. It was whilst engaged on these operations that Major Collins made his collection of the stone industries of the ancient inhabitants of South Africa, keeping systematic records of the deposits in which the implements occurred, and the levels at which the various types were found. That Major Collins's interest in anthropology did not interfere with his military duties may be inferred from the fact that he earned the Distinguished Service Order.

Mr. Reginald Smith has directed my attention to an earlier instance of a soldier utilising military operations for the progress of anthropology. In the Journal of the Anthropological Institute for 1884 (vol. xiii., p. 163) there is a paper, also on South African implements, contributed by Major H. W. Feilden, which was described by the late Mr. Hyde Clarke, vice-president of the institute, as "remarkable for the circumstances under which the information was obtained—on the march, in the battlefield, and through the perils and vicissitudes of war." Major Feilden made his observations during the campaigns in Natal, 1881-82. I have little doubt that some of our French colleagues, amidst all the dangers and anxieties which attend the present war, will avail themselves of the opportunities presented by the extensive trenching operations in northern France to extend further our knowledge of prehistoric times.

I have headed this note "Soldiers as Anthropologists," but I may be pardoned if, at the present time, I direct attention to another side of the matter, "The Anthropologist as Soldier." In a letter I had lately the honour to receive from Prof. Manouvrier, secretary to the Society of Anthropology of Paris, I was grieved to learn that "Nous avons perdu en France un anthropologue archéologue des plus estimés, M. Déchelette, capitaine de territoriale, tué dans une charge à la tête de sa Compagnie." M. Déchelette was author of a standard work, "Manuel d'Archéologie préhistorique Celtique et Gallo-Romaine," the third volume of which appeared during last year. M. Déchelette did not allow either his past or present services to science, his family ties, or his age—he was fifty-nine—to stand between him and what he considered his duty to his country. Although a great number of its members—including many of the most eminent anthropologists in Europe—are on active service—some have fallen, some wounded, and