

lead, the decrease being almost exactly proportional to the decrease in atomic weight in these samples, so that the atomic volume (18·281) is constant.—National Research Council: A preliminary report to the president of the Academy of the Organising Committee (Messrs. E. G. Conklin, S. Flexner, R. A. Millikan, A. A. Noyes, and G. F. Hale, chairman) of the National Research Council, established by the Academy after conference with the President of the United States for the purpose of co-ordinating the research elements of the country in the interest of national security and welfare.

CAPE TOWN.

Royal Society of South Africa, August 16.—Dr. L. Péringuey, president, in the chair.—R. E. Walker: The granite of the Schapenberg, Somerset West. The granite of the Schapenberg is essentially a grey, biotite-granite-porphry intrusive in fine-grained, argillaceous grits of the Malmesbury series. It is essentially an apophysis of one or other of the two large granite masses—the Kuils River granite and the Sir Lowry's Pass granite—which occur the one to the west and the other to the east of the Schapenberg; most probably of the latter. Both fine- and medium-grained varieties occur. At certain points along the contact the granite, owing to absorption of material from the invaded formation, is andalusite-bearing. The granite, particularly near its margin, has been subjected to pneumatolytic action, which has caused the formation of a series of altered granites ranging from school granite on one hand to greissen on the other. The greissen is a quartz-mica-tourmaline rock resembling, in most respects, that of Grainsgill, described by Mr. Alfred Harker in the *Q.I.C.S.*—J. S. v. d. Lingen: The radial lines in Röntgen interference patterns. The author briefly discussed the theory of radial lines, and pointed out that on Friedrich's assumption these lines ought to be present in all interference patterns. Experiments were then described, which support the view put forward by von Laue and the author, viz. radial lines are caused by weakening of the lattice of a rigid crystal. The pattern of $Mg(OH)_2$, where the water molecules were driven off, and resublimated iodine, were exhibited, as well as the pattern of sylvine obtained by Friedrich. The pattern of this iodine shows the transition stage from a three-dimensional grating to a two-dimensional grating. MgO from $Mg(OH)_2$ shows the two-dimensional grating only. "Baurite from biotite" shows the two-dimensional grating by treating biotite with acids.—E. J. Goddard: Some observations on *Ozobranchus branchiatus*. This paper contains an account of the leech (*Ozobranchus branchiatus*). Some historical interest attaches to the form, inasmuch as it was probably the first Annulate noted from the Australasian region. The specimens were obtained as parasites on the green turtle. The somite is represented in a very primitive condition, and it is of interest to note that the limitation of the genus to Chelonia as parasites is possibly, as in that of Branchellion to Pisces, indicative of an old association, and bearing out the morphological evidence that these forms are archaic and primitive, and ancestral to the Gnathobdellida and Herpobdellida. The paper deals with the constitution of the somite in the various regions of the body, and the conclusions to be derived from the same.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Flotation Process. Compiled and edited by T. A. Rickard. Pp. 364. (San Francisco: Mining and Scientific Press.) 8s. 6d. net.

A Glossary of Botanic Terms with their Derivation and Accent. By B. D. Jackson. Third edition. Pp. xi+427. (London: Duckworth and Co.) 7s. 6d. net.

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British and Foreign Marbles and other Ornamental Stones. By J. Watson. Pp. x+485. (Cambridge: At the University Press.) 5s. net.

Alternating Currents in Theory and Practice. By W. H. N. James. Pp. vi+353. (Cambridge: At the University Press.) 10s. 6d. net.

The Royal Horticultural Society's True Work. By A Life Fellow of the Society. Pp. 23. (London: Simpkin and Co., Ltd.) 6d. net.

A Bibliography of British Ornithology from the Earliest Times to the End of 1912. By W. H. Mullens and H. Kirke Swann. Part iii. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 6s. net.

Organic to Human: Psychological and Sociological. By Dr. H. Maudsley. Pp. viii+386. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 12s. net.

Bacon's War Maps. Europe, embracing all the Countries Involved. (London: G. W. Bacon and Co., Ltd.) 6d. net.

The Student's Handbook to the University and Colleges of Cambridge. Fifteenth edition, revised to June 30, 1916. Pp. 14+704. (Cambridge: At the University Press.) 3s. net.

Memories. By E. Clodd. Pp. xi+288. (London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 10s. 6d. net.

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