

been shown that the absorption of a given wave-length in a solid varies as the fourth power of the atomic number of the solid, whilst for a gas the primary β ionisation also varies as the fourth power of the atomic number of the atom ionised, leads to the conclusion that absorption in solids (apart from scattering) is due throughout to the production of β particles. Expressions are found for the fall in the constant of proportion between the absorption per atom and N^4 when a K line ceases to be excited, and when an L line ceases to be excited.—M. Rindl: Note on the occurrence of daphnin in the arthrosolen. The author has determined the presence of daphnetin and glucose in *Lasiosiphon polycephalus*, a perennial shrub which flowers in August and September, known to the South African farmers as Januariebosje, and assumes that the glucoside daphnin has been present and hydrolysed in the process of extraction.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Manual of Psychiatry. By Dr. J. Rogues de Fursac and Dr. A. J. Rosanoff. Fourth edition. Pp. xi + 522. (New York: J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 10s. 6d. net.

Food and Health. By Prof. H. Kinne and A. M. Cooley. Pp. vi + 312. (New York: The Macmillan Co.; London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 3s. net.

Theoretical Chemistry from the Standpoint of Avogadro's Rule and Thermodynamics. By Prof. W. Nernst. Revised by H. T. Tizard. Pp. xix + 853. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 15s. net.

Bacon's Large-Scale Map of the Salonika Battle Front. (London: G. W. Bacon and Co., Ltd.) 1s. net.

Tropical Agriculture. By Dr. E. V. Wilcox. Pp. xviii + 373. (New York and London: D. Appleton and Co.) 10s. 6d. net.

Scheme for Maternity and Child Welfare Work. By Misses I. Macdonald and K. C. Atherton. (London: Royal Sanitary Institute.) 1s. net.

Functions of a Complex Variable. By T. M. MacRobert. Pp. xiv + 295. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 12s. net.

A Laboratory Course of Practical Electricity for Vocational Schools and Shop Classes. By M. J. Archbold. Pp. ix + 211 + Exp. 98. (New York: The Macmillan Co.; London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 5s. net.

A Critique of the Theory of Evolution. By Prof. T. H. Morgan. Pp. x + 197. (Princeton: University Press; London: Oxford University Press.) 6s. net.

Human Physiology. By P. G. Stiles. Pp. 405. (Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Co.) 6s. 6d. net.

Farm Spies: How the Boys Investigated Field Crop Insects. By Prof. A. F. Conradi and W. A. Thomás. Pp. xi + 165. (New York: The Macmillan Co.; London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 2s. net.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 5.—The Comparative Morphology of the Sorus of Ferns; Prof. F. O. Bower.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Some Asymptotic Formulæ in Combinatory Analysis; G. H. Hardy and S. Ramanujan.—Singular Solutions of Ordinary Differential Equations of the First Order; M. J. M. Hill.—The Nature of a Moving Electric Charge and its Lines of Electric Force; H. Bateman.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—Between the Tigris and the Indus. The Ben-i-Israel; Sir T. H. Holdich.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Alloys of Copper and Tin, Aluminium and Gold; Col. C. T. Heycock.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.30.—Scap Bubbles of Long Duration; Sir James Dewar.

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INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 6.—The Manufacture of Gauges at the L.C.C. Paddington Technical Institute; A. G. Cooke, W. J. Gow, and W. G. Tunncliffe.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Lakes and Mountains of Central Africa; A. K. Hinks.

MONDAY, JANUARY 22.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Yunnan and the West River of China; E. C. Wilton.

ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY, at 8.—Monism in the Light of Recent Developments in Philosophy; C. E. M. Joad.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Old Brain and the New Brain, and their Meaning; Prof. C. S. Sherrington.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 5.30.—The Physical Features of "Adam's Bridge," and the Currents across it, considered as affecting the Proposed Construction of a Railway connecting India with Ceylon; F. J. Waring.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—Relief Work in Belgium; W. A. M. Goode.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Easter Island; W. Scoresby Routledge.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—Probable Papers: The Dynamics of Revolving Fluid; Lord Rayleigh.—Spectroscopic Observations on the Active Modification of Nitrogen. V.; Hon. R. J. Strutt.—Magnetic Induction and its Reversal in Spherical Iron Shells; Profs. J. W. Nicholson and E. Wilson.—The Two-dimensional Motion of a Plane Lamina in a Resisting Medium; S. Brodetsky

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.30.—Epicurean Philosophy; Prof. G. Murray. PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—A Clock of Precision; C. O. Bartrum.—The Effect of the Water Vapour in the Atmosphere on the Propagation of Electromagnetic Waves; Dr. F. Schweser.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Lakes and Mountains of Central Africa; A. R. Hinks.

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