

terior coxal cavities in the families Carabidæ and Cicindelidæ (Coleoptera).

August 29.—Dr. H. G. Chapman, president, in the chair.—E. F. Hallmann: The genera *Echinaxia* and *Rhabdosigma* (Porifera). The genera were proposed in a recent paper, without definitions, for two species wrongly referred to *Axinella* and *Sigmaxinella* respectively. The definitions are now given, with remarks on the probable relationships of the two genera, and re-descriptions of the type-species.—T. G. Sloane: Carabidæ from tropical Australia. Twenty-one species belonging to the tribes Scaritini, Harpalini, Odacanthini, Lebiini, and Helluonini are described as new. The Australian genera of the tribe Odacanthini, including four proposed as new, are tabulated.—Dr. A. J. Turner: Revision of Australian Lepidoptera. Part vi. (second instalment), Eighteen genera, and eighty-two species of the sub-family Boarmianæ, are discussed.

Royal Society of New South Wales, September 5.—J. H. Maiden: Notes on the genus *Acacia*, No. III (extra-tropical Western Australia). Several species are proposed as new to science (one on behalf of Mr. W. V. Fitzgerald), and also a new variety of *A. pyrifolia*. Several imperfectly known species are more fully described, and *A. chisholmi*, hitherto known only from Queensland, is shown to belong to Western Australia. The synonymy of certain species is elucidated, and additional information is given as to distribution and other points.

CAPE TOWN.

Royal Society of South Africa, September 26.—Dr. L. Péringuey, president, in the chair.—W. von Bonde: Note on the abnormal development of the genital organs of *Jasus lalandii*.—G. H. Malan: The colour-octahedron as a complexity: being suggestions towards a mathematics of colour. Developing certain ideas of Meinong, who contends that the possibility of representing certain well-known facts in connection with colour-psychology by a diagram in the form of an octahedron rests on the presence of certain *a priori* relations incidental to the very nature of colour itself, the writer is led to examine Meinong's contention critically in the light of modern mathematical logic (as expounded by B. Russell). The result of this examination is (1) to show that Meinong's theory, though true in its intention, is at fault in its practical conception of an *a priori* science of colour, and (2) to necessitate a more exact discrimination between the viewpoints of empirical psychology and mathematical science.—Miss A. M. Bottomley: A list of South African fungi. This paper is a systematic compilation, with indexes of all the South African fungi in the Government Mycological Herbarium. It records some 276 genera and 800 named species, some of the more important or more interesting of which are illustrated by photographs of actual specimens. Considerable space is occupied by the rusts, the perisporiales, and the pore fungi, three groups which are receiving particular attention in the mycological department.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

British Rainfall, 1916. By Dr. H. R. Mill and C. Salter. Pp. 256. (London: E. Stanford, Ltd.) 10s.
How to Collect and Dry Flowering Plants and Ferns. By H. S. Thompson. Pp. 56. (London: G. Routledge and Sons, Ltd.) 7d. net.
Lord Lister. By Sir R. Godlee, Bart. Pp. xix+676. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 18s. net.
Vegetable Forcing. By R. L. Watts. Pp. xx+431. (New York: Orange Judd Co.) 2 dollars net.

NO. 2509, VOL. 100]

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29.
LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 5.—(1) Intensity and Direction of Light as Factors in Phototropism; (2) Spore-coloration in Agaricacæ: Dr. Harold Wager.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30.
INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 6.—"Thomas Hawksley"
Lecture; Heat Engines: Captain H. Riall Sankey.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1.
GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, at 3.—The Gold Coast: A. E. Kitson.
MONDAY, DECEMBER 3.
ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—Progress in the Metallurgy of Copper: Prof. H. C. H. Carpenter.
ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY, at 8.—The Development of Criticism: F. C. Bartlett.
VICTORIA INSTITUTE, at 4.30.—Prehistoric Man: his Antiquity and Characteristics: W. Dale.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4.
SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, at 8.—Presidential Address: The Economics of Coal Production: Prof. H. Louis.
INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 5.30.—Recent Developments in By-product Coking: G. B. Walker.
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5.
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.
ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.
ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—Inaugural Trueman Wood Lecture: Discovery and Invention: Sir Dugald Clerk, K.B.E.
SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS, at 5.—The Valenta Number as a Discriminative Test for Oils and Fats: P. J. Fryer and F. E. Weston.—The Composition of Sharps and Bran: H. E. Cox.—Notes on Porcelain: W. T. Burgess.—Note on the Colorimetric Estimation of Iron: E. R. Dovey.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6.
ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—Probable Papers: The Series of Legendre: Prof. W. H. Young.—The Discharge of Gases under High Pressures: L. Hartshorn.—The Electrostatic Problem of a Conducting Sphere as a Spherical Cavity: Dr. Alexander Russell.—The Zeros of Bessel Functions: Prof. G. N. Watson.
INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 6.—Electrical Cooking as applied to Large Kitchens: W. A. Gillott.
CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—The Relation between Chemical Constitution and Physiological Action: Dr. F. L. Pyman.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Organism and Environment. By E. H. S.	241
The Perennial Problem of Dyes. By G. T. M.	242
The New Regionalism. By Benchara Branford	242
Our Bookshelf	243
Letters to the Editor:—	
" Fascination " of Birds by a Snake. — Prof. Edward B. Poulton, F.R.S.	244
Pyrometers and Pyrometry.—Chas. E. Foster	244
Iron-ore Deposits in Relation to the War. By Prof. H. Louis	244
Science, Industry, and Commerce in India	245
Pitfalls of Meteorological Periodicities. By W. W. B.	246
Notes	247
Our Astronomical Column:—	
The Total Eclipse of the Sun, June 8, 1918	252
Reports of French Observatories	252
Structure of Planetary Nebulæ	252
The Education Bill	253
Marine Biology	253
Research Papers from the University of Sydney	254
The Survey of India	254
Modern Developments of the Gas Industry	255
University and Educational Intelligence	256
Societies and Academies	257
Books Received	260
Diary of Societies	260

Editorial and Publishing Offices:
MACMILLAN AND CO., LTD.,
ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON, W.C.2.

Advertisements and business letters to be addressed to the Publishers.

Editorial Communications to the Editor.
Telegraphic Address: PHUSIS, LONDON.
Telephone Number: GERRARD 8830.