

of the sea is the supersaturated solution of CaCO_3 , and it is only necessary to introduce calcite crystals in order to cause precipitation of this substance.—H. J. Muller: An *Cnothera*-like case in *Drosophila*. Report of an extended series of experiments showing that it will not do to accept evidence apparently in favour of factor inconstancy without the support of highly rigorous factorial analysis.—A. G. Mayer: Is death from high temperature due to the accumulation of acid in the tissues? Death is probably due to the formation of acid rather than to coagulation of proteid substances.

VICTORIA.

Royal Society, November 8, 1917.—Prof. W. A. Osborne, president, in the chair.—R. S. Rogers: *Chiloglottis pescottiana*, sp. nov. The species was found at Tallangatta, and is distinguished from others of the genus in the distribution of the calli and the form of the labellum.—Miss N. C. B. Allen: Magnetic deflection of rays; tabulation of v against RH, assuming Laurentz theory.—F. Chapman: The occurrence of Acrotreta in Lower Palaeozoic (Lancefieldian and Heathcotian) shales. The discovery of this genus in Victoria further supports the conclusion as to the Upper Cambrian age of the Heathcotian and associated beds. The new species is related to *A. belti* from the Lower Tremadoc of North Wales and to *A. transversalis* of the St. John Group, New Brunswick.—F. Chapman: An apparently new type of Cetecean tooth from the Tertiary of Tasmania. *Scaptodon lodderi* is represented by a flattened conical tooth with a small bevelled crown, which is otherwise allied to teeth of the Physeter type.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Solectrics: A Theory explaining the Causes of Tempests, Seismic and Volcanic Disturbances, and other Natural Phenomena: How to Calculate their Time and Place. By A. J. Cooper. Pp. 213. (London: J. D. Potter.) 6s.

Ambulance de l'Océan. La Panne la Prothèse du Membre Inférieur. By Dr. F. Martin. Pp. viii+107. (Paris: Masson et Cie.) 5 francs.

The Philosophy of Benedetto Croce. The Problem of Art and History. By Dr. H. Wildon Carr. Pp. x+213. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 7s. 6d. net.

Notions d'Acoustique. Instruments de Musique; le Telharmonium. By J. Rodet. Pp. 96. (Paris: Gauthier Villars et Cie.) 3.50 francs.

The Scientist's Reference Book and Diary, 1918. (Manchester: J. Woolley, Sons, and Co., Ltd.) 2s. 6d.

Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. Report on the Physical Welfare of Mothers and Children. Scotland. Vol. iii. Pp. xxviii+625+illustrations. (Dunfermline: Carnegie U.K. Trust.)

Third Melbourne General Catalogue of 3068 Stars for the Equinox 1890, from Observations made at Melbourne Observatory during the Period 1884-87 to 1894-1900. Pp. viii+77. (Melbourne: A. J. Mullett.)

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—The Growth of Trees: A. Mallock.—Action of Light Rays on Organic Compounds, and the Photosynthesis of Organic from Inorganic Compounds in Presence of Inorganic Colloids: Prof. B. Moore and T. A. Webster.—The Isolation and Serological Differentiation of *Bacillus tetani*: Capt. W. J. Tulloch.—An Investigation into the Periodicity of Measles Epidemics in the Different Districts of London for the years 1890-1912: Dr. J. Brownlee.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Revolving Fluid and the Weather Map: Sir Napier Shaw.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.30.—Gravitation and the Principle of Relativity: Prof. A. S. Eddington.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Ethics of the War: P. H. Loyson.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—High-temperature Processes and Products: C. R. Darling.
ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY, at 8.—The Theory of a Limited Deity: Bishop of Down.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Problems of British Anthropology: Prof. A. Keith.
ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—The Industrial Resources of South Africa: C. du P. Chiappini.
INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 5.30.—The West Quay of Madras Harbour: The Hon. Sir Francis J. E. Spring and Hugh H. G. Mitchell.
RÖNTGEN SOCIETY, at 8.15.—A Simple Means of Obtaining "Static Currents" from an Induction Coil: Dr. G. B. Batten.—A Mobile Snook Apparatus: E. E. Burnside.
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Notes on the Dingo in Australia: T. E. Whitehead.—Notes on the Skull of *Rana tigrina*: Prof. B. L. Bhatia and Bains Prasad.—Description of a New Snake of the Genus *Oligodon*, from Upper Burma: G. A. Boulenger.—A New and a Rare Species of the Golden Mole (*Bemataiscus*): Dr. B. Broom.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—The Development of the Mineral Resources of the Empire: Prof. W. Frecheville.
SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS, at 5.—Annual General Meeting.—A Modified Acetic Acid Reagent for Valenta Tests: A. E. Parkes.—Oiticica Oil—a New Drying Oil: E. Richards Bolton and Cecil Revis.
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.
ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—*Probable Papers*: The Photo-Electric Action of X-rays: Prof. O. W. Richardson.—The Parent of Actinium: F. Soddy and J. A. Cranston.—The Absorption of the Radiation Emitted by a Palladium Anticathode in Rhodium, Palladium, and Silver: E. A. Owen.
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Illusions of the Atmosphere: The Travelling Vortex and the Cyclonic Depression: Sir Napier Shaw.
INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 6.—Ninth Kelvin Lecture: Kelvin as a Teacher: Prof. M. Maclean.
LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 5.—Two Bibliographical Rarities of the Society's Library: (a) Cupani, F., "Panphyton siculum," 1713; (b) Du Gort, J. and P., "L'Histoire et Pourtrait des Plantes," Lyon, 1561: The General Secretary.—Plant Distribution from the Standpoint of an Idealist: H. P. Guppy.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.30.—Science and Ethics: Principal E. H. Griffiths.
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—Anniversary Meeting.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Ethics of the War: P. H. Loyson.

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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.