

## SYDNEY.

**Royal Society of New South Wales**, August 7.—Mr. W. S. Dun, president, in the chair.—R. T. Baker: The technology and anatomy of some "silky oak" timbers. This paper covers an investigation into the technology and anatomy of five species of timber-yielding trees belonging to the natural order Protæcæ, and all vernacularly known as members of the "silky oak" family. Two belong to the same genus, viz. *Grevillea robusta* and *G. hilliana*, the others being *Orites excelsa*, *Cardwelli sublimis*, and *Embothrium wickhami*. Their economic applications are enumerated, and the suitability of some of them for flying machines adds a new timber to those valuable arms of the Empire—the Navy and Army. Breaking strains, specific gravities, and weights of each are given.—R. H. Cambage: Vertical growth of trees. From tests made for several years on very young trees it appears that after the branches are thrown out the trunk does not increase in length to any appreciable extent below such branches, but the prolongation comes from the terminal shoot or growing point at the summit. Nails which were driven into very young acacias, cinnamomums, and eucalypts at 4 ft. and 5 ft. from the base were not carried upwards during several years or while the little tree-stems grew to double their length.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Physical Society of London. Report on the Relativity Theory of Gravitation. By Prof. A. S. Eddington. Pp. vii+91. (London: The Flectway Press, Ltd.) 6s. net

Jungle Peace. By W. Beebe. Pp. 297. (New York: H. Holt and Co.)

What is War? and Two Other Essays. By H. B. Cowen. Pp. 38. (London: The Cursitor Publishing Co.) 9d.

Psychological Principles. By Prof. J. Ward. Pp. xiv+478. (Cambridge: At the University Press.) 21s. net.

On the Nature of Things. By H. Woods. Pp. v+248. (Bristol: John Wright and Sons, Ltd.) 10s. 6d. net.

The Life and Letters of Joseph Black, M.D. By Sir W. Ramsay. With an introduction dealing with the life and work of Sir William Ramsay by Prof. F. G. Donnan. Pp. xix+148. (London: Constable and Co., Ltd.) 6s. 6d. net.

The Ontario High School Laboratory Manual in Chemistry. By Prof. G. A. Cornish, assisted by A. Smith. Pp. vii+135. (Toronto: The Macmillan Co. of Canada, Ltd.) 25 cents.

The Ontario High School Chemistry. By Prof. G. A. Cornish, assisted by A. Smith. Pp. vii+297. (Toronto: The Macmillan Co. of Canada, Ltd.) 50 cents.

Far Away and Long Ago. By W. H. Hudson. Pp. xii+332. (London: J. M. Dent and Sons, Ltd.) 15s. net.

Interpolation Tables or Multiplication Tables of Decimal Fractions. By Dr. H. B. Hedrick. Pp. ix+139. (Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington.)

Dictionary and Grammar of the Language of Sa'a and Ulawa, Solomon Islands, with Appendices. By W. G. Ivens. Pp. vii+249+11 plates. (Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington.)

Papers from the Department of Marine Biology of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Vol. ix. Pp. 362+105 plates. (Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington.)

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## DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4.

ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY, at 8.—Dr. G. E. Moore: Presidential Address, Some Judgments of Perception.  
SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS, at 5.30.—Sir Richard Cooper, Bart.: Obstacles to Post-war Trade.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5.

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Anniversary Meeting.—Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith and Dr. G. T. Prior: A Plagionite-like Mineral from Dumfriesshire.—Lt. Arthur Russell: The Chromite Deposits in the Island of Unst, Shetlands.—Dr. G. T. Prior: The Nickeliferous Iron of the Meteorites of Bluff, Chandakapur, Chateau Renard, Cynth'ana, Dhurmsala, Eli Elwah, Gnadenfrei, Kabowa, Lundsgård, New Concord, Shelburne, and Shytal.

RÖNTGEN SOCIETY, at 8.15.—Dr. G. B. Batten: Presidential Address.  
INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 5.30.—Sir John A. F. Aspinall: Inaugural Address, and Presentation of the Medals recently Awarded by the Council.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Prof. H. M. Lefroy: The Sydney Zoological Gardens.—Dr. R. T. Leiper: (1) Diagnosis of Helminth Infections from the Character of the Eggs in the Fæces; (2) Demonstration of the "New" Rabbit Disease.—J. F. Gemmill: Ciliary Action in the Internal Cavities of the Ctenophore, *Pleurobrachia pileus*, Fabr.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS, at 5.—H. Droop Richmond: Note on the Graduation of Gerber Butyrometers.—B. G. McLellan and A. W. Knapp: The Estimation of Cacao Shell.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Major Sir Douglas Mawson introduces Discussion on the Antarctic Ice-sheet and its Borders.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—*Probable Papers*: Prof. G. E. Hale: The Nature of Sun-spots.—E. O. Hercules and T. H. Laby: The Thermal Conductivity of Air.—T. K. Chinmayanandam: Haidinger's Rings in Mica.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 6.—Tenth Kelvin Lecture—L. B. Atkinson: The Dynamical Theory of Electric Engines.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 5.

MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 7.—The Rev. Dr. A. H. Cooke: The Radula of *Thais*, *Drupa*, *Concholepas*, *Cronia*, *Rapana*, and the Allied Genera.—W. T. Webster: Notes on the Life-history of *Planorbis cornutus* and other Freshwater Mollusca.

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