

Societies and Academies.

SYDNEY.

Royal Society of New South Wales, June 2.—Mr. James Nangle, president, in the chair.—H. G. Smith and A. R. Penfold: The manufacture of thymol, menthone, and menthol from eucalyptus oils. Work was undertaken in order to determine the molecular structure of piperitone, the peppermint ketone of eucalyptus oils. Piperitone is a menthenone with the carbonyl group in the 3 position. When oxidised with ferric chloride in the ordinary way 25 per cent. of thymol was produced. By reducing piperitone with hydrogen in the presence of a nickel catalyst an almost quantitative yield of menthone was obtained, which on further reduction with sodium in aqueous ether produced menthol. The abundance of piperitone obtainable from *Eucalyptus dives* makes this ketone probably the best source for the manufacture of thymol and menthone.—R. H. Cambage: A new species of Queensland ironbark. This new eucalyptus comes from about 120 miles westerly from Cairns, in tropical Queensland, and furnishes a good, red timber. It was found growing on granite formation in open forest country, and resembles *E. crebra* in bark and timber, but differs in the shape of buds and fruits, which latter are hemispherical with exerted valves.

Books Received.

The Physical Chemistry of the Metals. By Prof. R. Schenck. Translated and annotated by R. S. Dean. Pp. viii+239. (New York: J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 22s. 6d. net.

A Constitution for the Socialist Commonwealth of Great Britain. By Sidney and Beatrice Webb. Pp. xviii+364. (London: Longmans, Green, and Co.) 12s. 6d. net.

Governors and the Governing of Prime Movers. By Prof. W. Trinks. Pp. xviii+236. (London: Constable and Co., Ltd.) 22s. 6d. net.

The World Crisis: A Suggested Remedy. By Sir G. Paish. Pp. 30. (London: Benn Bros., Ltd.) 6d.

A Manual of the Timbers of the World: Their Characteristics and Uses. By A. L. Howard. Pp. xvi+446. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) 30s. net.

Dead Towns and Living Men: Being Pages from an Antiquary's Notebook. By C. L. Woolley. Pp. viii+259. (London: Oxford University Press.) 12s. 6d. net.

Le Rythme Universel. Comme base d'une Nouvelle Conception de l'Univers. By Prof. Dr. C. Mereschkovsky. Pp. 48. (Genève et Lyon: Georg & Co.)

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Historical Record, 1898-1920. Pp. viii+103+plates. (Liverpool: University Press.)

General Botany for Universities and Colleges. By Prof. H. D. Densmore. Pp. xii+459. (Boston and London: Ginn and Co.) 12s. 6d. net.

Internal-Combustion Engines: Their Principles and Application to Automobile, Aircraft, and Marine Purposes. By Lt.-Comdr. W. L. Lind. Pp. v+225. (Boston and London: Ginn and Co.) 10s. net.

Types and Breeds of Farm Animals. By Prof. C. S. Plumb. Revised edition. Pp. viii+820. (Boston and London: Ginn and Co.) 16s. 6d. net.

Geodesy: Including Astronomical Observations, Gravity Measurements, and Method of Least Squares. By Prof. G. L. Hosmer. Pp. xi+368. (New York:

J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 18s. 6d. net.

Prospecting for Oil and Gas. By L. S. Panyity. Pp. xvii+249. (New York: J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 18s. net.

London County Council. Education Act, 1918. Draft Scheme of the Local Education Authority. Pp. 112. (London: L.C.C. Education Offices.)

Free Will and Destiny. By St. G. Lane-Fox Pitt. Pp. xix+100. (London: Constable and Co., Ltd.) 5s.

The Victoria History of the Counties of England. A History of the County of Surrey. Part 1, Geology, by G. W. Lamplugh; Palæontology, by R. Lydekker. Pp. 34. 3s. 6d. net. Part 2, Botany, edited by W. H. Beeby. Pp. 35-70. 3s. 6d. net. Part 3, Zoology. Pp. 71-226. 12s. 6d. net. Part 4, Early Man, by G. Clinch. Pp. 227-54. 2s. 6d. net. (London: Constable and Co., Ltd.)

La République Argentine: La Mise en Valeur du Pays. By Dr. P. Denis. Pp. 303+vii plates. (Paris: A. Colin.) 14 francs.

A Little Book about Snowdon. By H. V. Davis. Pp. 30. (Crewe: The Author, "Noddfa," Wistaston.) 8d.

Canada. Department of Mines. Mines Branch. Graphite. By H. S. Spence. Pp. ix+202+plates. (Ottawa.)

Peetickay: An Essay towards the Abolition of Spelling. By Dr. W. Perrett. Pp. 96. (Cambridge: W. Heffer and Sons, Ltd.) 6s. net.

Atomic and Molecular Theory. By D. L. Hamrick. Pp. 82. (Winchester: P. and G. Wells.)

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