

ledge of the internal pressures.—H. Abraham and R. Planiol: The use of the Baudot telegraph in wireless telegraphy. The Baudot quadruple instrument used in the ordinary way records 7200 words per hour. A description of the adaptation of this to wireless transmission is given. The first experiments were made across Paris; later the apparatus was successfully used between Paris and Nogent-le-Rotrou.—M. St. Procopiu: Electrical double refraction of mixed liquids and crystalline structure.—A. E. Lindh: The absorption spectra of chlorine for the X-rays. All chlorides in which the chlorine is monovalent have similar X-ray spectra, but there is a displacement of the limits of absorption in  $KClO_3$  and  $KClO_4$ , compounds in which the valencies are 5 and 7.—D. Coster: The principle of combination and the law of Stokes in the X-ray series.—MM. M. Menard and Pestel: Concerning the danger of radiological installations. The authors conclude that, provided the usual precautions required for the safety of the operator are taken, there is no real danger to third parties in neighbouring rooms.—A. Tian: A theory of the slow hydrolysis of salts.—MM. P. Jolibois and Bouvier: The reversibility of the reaction  $CaCO_3 = CO_2 + CaO$ . The self-recording apparatus described in an earlier paper has been applied to the study of the dissociation of calcium carbonate. The heating and cooling curves are not the same, and hence the reaction is not strictly reversible.—G. Dupont: Contribution to the study of the acid constituents of the exudation of the maritime pine. The composition of pimaric acid. Pimaric acid purified by Vesterberg's method is a mixture of 37 per cent. of dextropimaric acid and 63 per cent. of the lævo-acid.—L. Longchambon: The measurement of the rotatory power in biaxial crystals.—L. Cayeux: The petrographic rôle of fossil Alcyonaria deduced from the analysis of the Jurassic iron minerals of France.—L. Joleaud: A deep boring which demonstrates the existence of transported strata in northern Tunis. A trial boring for oil made at Ain-Rhelal started in the Middle Miocene, then passed through the Trias (630 metres), and finally met with strata undoubtedly belonging to the Upper Cretaceous.—F. Ehrmann: The Trias of the Kabylie des Babors (Algeria).—J. Beauverie: The resistance of mitochondria and plastids, and relations with attacks by parasites.—G. Mangenot: The structure of the antherozoids of the Fucaceæ.—R. Lance: The use of coloured screens for fighting against cryptogamic diseases of plants. The plants are sprayed with solutions containing blue, green, and violet dye. The fluid dries and leaves the parts of the plant covered with a colour screen allowing blue, violet, and ultra-violet light to pass. No results of the treatment are given.—R. Lance: An anticryptogamic product. A proposal to use salts of zinc for spraying plants.—M. Mirande: Seeds giving hydrogen sulphide by fermentation belonging to the family of the Papilionaceæ. Many leguminous seeds, including beans, peas, and lentils, when moistened with water undergo a spontaneous fermentation, one of the products of which (sulphuretted hydrogen) is poisonous.—C. Champy: The experimental change of sex in *Triton alpestris*. A male, subjected to starvation, had its testicle replaced by a fatty band containing neither spermatocytes nor spermatozooids. Two animals after winter starvation were intensively fed. The external colouring changed from male to female in character. One of these was killed, and showed the adipose band; the second, killed two months later, showed a genital gland (section shown in diagram) corresponding to the ovary of a young female.—L. Roule and F. Angel: Fishes of the family of the Diretmideæ and their place in classification.—A. Gravel: The geographical distribution of some Madagascan lobsters

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and their commercial exploitation.—J. Dragoiu and F. Viès: The cytological consequences of the osmotic arrest of cell division. The increase of the external osmotic pressure first retards, then stops, the division of the cytoplasm. With additional increase of osmotic pressure the internal evolution of the cell is progressively changed in a regular manner. The whole process simulates a kind of regression of nuclear evolution.—M. Doyon: The use of chloroform for the preparation of nucleo-proteids and nucleic acids active *in vitro* on the blood. The complexity of the action of the nucleic acids *in vitro*.—M. Bordier: The usefulness of diathermal d'Arsonvalisation in atonic wounds.

### Books Received.

The Works of Aristotle. Translated into English under the editorship of W. D. Ross. Vol. x.: *Politica*. By Benjamin Jowett. *Oeconomica*. By E. S. Forster. Atheniensium Respublica. By Sir Frederic G. Kenyon. Unpaged. (Oxford: Clarendon Press.) 15s. net.

Insects and Human Welfare. By Prof. Charles T. Brues. Pp. xii+104. (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press; London: Oxford University Press.) 10s. 6d. net.

Fugitive Essays. By Josiah Royce. Pp. 429. (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press; London: Oxford University Press.) 17s. net.

Aeroplane Performance Calculations. By Harris Booth. (The D.-U. Technical Series.) Pp. xv+207. (London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 21s. net.

Landscape Gardening. By Andrew J. Downing. Tenth edition, revised by Frank A. Waugh. Pp. xv+439. (New York: J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd.) 36s. net.

The Study of Geological Maps. By Dr. Gertrude L. Elles. (Cambridge Geological Series.) Pp. viii+74+vii plates. (Cambridge: At the University Press.) 12s. net.

The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute. Vol. 1., 1920, July-December. Pp. x+237-465+12+plates. (London: Royal Anthropological Institute.) 15s. net.

The Relative Value of the Processes Causing Evolution. By Dr. A. L. Hagedoorn and A. C. Hagedoorn-Vorstheuvell la Brand. Pp. v+294. (The Hague: M. Nijhoff.) 9 glds.

The Reign of Relativity. By Viscount Haldane. Pp. xxiii+430. (London: J. Murray.) 21s. net.

Memoirs of the Geological Survey: England and Wales. The Water Supply of Buckinghamshire and of Hertfordshire from Underground Sources. By W. Whitaker. Pp. iv+368. (Southampton: Ordnance Survey Office; London: E. Stanford, Ltd.) 16s. net.

The Banana: Its Cultivation, Distribution, and Commercial Uses. By William Fawcett. Second and enlarged edition. Pp. xi+299. (London: Duckworth and Co.) 15s. net.

### Diary of Societies.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2.

- INDUSTRIAL WELFARE SOCIETY (at 51 Palace Street, S.W.1), at 10.30.—Dr. R. M. Wilson: Medical Service in Industry.—Prof. E. L. Collis, Dr. T. M. Legge, and Dr. H. Ross: Discussion on Health Problems in Industry.
- ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Laryngology Section) (Summer Meeting), 2.30 to 6.
- ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, at 3.—Sir Alexander O. Mackenzie: Beethoven.
- INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY AND RESEARCH (at St. Mary's Hospital), at 4.30.—Prof. G. Dreyer: A New Departure in the Serum Diagnosis of Syphilis.
- ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—Dr. T. M. Lowry and Dr. C. P. Austin: Optical Rotatory Dispersion (The Bakerian Lecture).
- LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 5.—Prof. Garstang and Others: Discussion on Biogenetic Law (Recapitulation).