

mean pressure for Geneva.—E. Moles, T. Batuccas, and M. Payà: The density of the air at Madrid and its small variations. The results of thirty series of measurements are given, each series comprising two or three observations. The mean is 1.29303, and the deviations are regarded as being outside the experimental error. In agreement with the Loomis-Morley hypothesis, the minima of density correspond with the maximum of atmospheric pressure and conversely.—L. Blaringhem: The pollen of flax and the degenerescence of the varieties cultivated for the fibre. The study of the quality of the pollen of isolated pedigrees, followed during several generations, is recommended for the selection of flax grown for the fibre.—C. Porcher and A. Chevallier: The distribution of the saline substances and the mineral elements in milk.—W. Mestrezat and Mlle. S. Ledebt: The compensating rôle of chlorides in its relations with the chemical composition of the body fluids.—P. Chailley-Bert, R. Faillie, and J. P. Langlois: The "second wind" of runners. Experiments are given showing that the "second wind" is brought about by a diminution in the respiratory exchanges, and that this diminution, the work remaining constant, is the result of a better adaptation of the subject, an improvement in the yield of the human machine.—H. Piéron: The importance of the peripheral phase in the margin of the variation of the times of sensorial latency as a function of the intensities of stimulation.—A. Vandel: The question of cellular specificity in *Polycelis cornuta*.—F. Picard: The determination of egg-production in *Pimpla instigator*. Experiments proving that the sight plays no part in the act of depositing the egg.—P. Remy: The action of the vapours of chloropicrin on *Argas reflexus*. This parasite of the pigeon has proved to be extremely difficult to destroy by the ordinary insecticides; it is now proved to be destroyed by the vapours of chloropicrin, the amounts required being small enough for practical use.—A. Goris and A. Liot: Observations on the culture of the pyocyanic bacillus on artificially defined media.—E. Sergeant and M. Béguet: The mycosic nature of a new disease of the date-palm threatening the Morocco oases.

## SYDNEY.

Linnean Society of New South Wales, May 25.—Mr. G. A. Waterhouse, president, in the chair.—T. G. Sloane: Revisional notes on Australian Carabidæ, pt. vi. The tribe Bembidiini is reviewed so far as the Australian fauna is concerned. The synonymy is given, and seven species of Tachys are described as new. The tribe, as represented in Australia, consists of five genera, of which only Illaphanus is peculiar to Australia; the five genera comprise fifty-eight species.—Dr. A. J. Turner: Revision of Australian Lepidoptera—Hypsidiæ, Anthelidæ. Six genera, one of which is new, and fourteen species of Hypsidiæ and seven genera and forty-seven species (twelve new) of Anthelidæ are described.—T. Steel: Ulmite, a constituent of black sandstone. A black friable sandstone which outcrops frequently on the coast of New South Wales consists of sand grains with a thin, dark-coloured coating. This coating is identical with humus extracted from soil.—W. P. Hiern: A new species and a new variety of *Diospyros*. A new species is described from New Caledonia, and a new variety of *D. samoënsis* from Apia, Samoa.

## Books Received.

Power House Design. By Sir J. F. C. Snell. Second edition. Pp. xi+535. (London: Longmans, Green and Co.) 42s. net.  
The Garden of Earth. By A. Giberne. Pp. xiv+178. (London: S.P.C.K.) 6s. 6d. net.

Mountain and Moorland. By Prof. J. A. Thomson. (Nature Lover's Series.) Pp. 176. (London: S.P.C.K.) 6s. net.

Engineering Steels. By Dr. L. Aitchison. (Reconstructive Technical Series.) Pp. xxxi+348+48 plates. (London: Macdonald and Evans.) 25s. net.

The Beloved Ego. By Dr. W. Stekel. Authorised translation by R. Gabler. Pp. xv+238. (London: Kegan Paul and Co., Ltd.) 6s. 6d. net.

Whitherward? Hell or Eutopia. By V. Branford. Pp. xv+116. (London: Williams and Norgate.) 2s. 6d. net.

Air Ministry: Meteorological Office. Professional Notes No. 19. Cracker Balloons for Signalling Temperature. By L. F. Richardson. (M.O. 240i.) Pp. 95-115. (London: H.M. Stationery Office.) 1s. net.

## Diary of Societies.

## THURSDAY, JULY 14.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Prof. H. E. Armstrong and A. C. Klein: Paints, Painting, and Painters, with Reference to Technical Problems, Public Interests, and Health. (To be followed by a discussion.)

## FRIDAY, JULY 15.

INSTITUTION OF PRODUCTION ENGINEERS (at Institution of Mechanical Engineers), at 7.30.—M. Lawrence: Production and the Engineer.

## MONDAY, JULY 18.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY OF LONDON, at 3.—Prof. A. R. Bickerton: The Generic Simplicity and Great Importance of Basic Principles in all Scientific Work. III. The Importance of the Cosmic Theory of the Third Body.

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