

integrates everything it comes into contact with except *refracton*, and it is conveyed in capillary tubes of the latter, a metre thick in the wall, in minute quantities from the laboratory to the furnaces. The authors are clever enough to get the best out of both possible worlds, and succeed, not only in showing us the effects of Paris being converted into an inferno through anarchists blowing up the refracton tubes, but also at the same time to bring the venture to a brilliantly successful conclusion with the hero and heroine happily off for the honeymoon.

"White Lightning" is a most curious production. Each of its ninety-two chapters is named after one of the elements in the order of the Periodic Table, and, in most of the chapters, the author succeeds in bringing in some interesting allusion to modern discoveries in chemistry and physics, if not always specially connected with the titular deity of the chapter. The style is irritatingly disconnected and inconsequent, but it manages to convey some idea of the fascination and glamour of discovery and the enthusiasms of which it is born. Emanating from America, it is no surprise to find that this author's *dénouement* is to endow, through the generosity of his public-spirited characters, the hero and the heroine with a research laboratory to be devoted to the study of the liberation of atomic energy.

F. S.

*The Great Flint Implements of Cromer, Norfolk.* By J. Reid Moir. (Printed and published on behalf of the author for private circulation.) Pp. 39. (Ipswich: W. E. Harrison, 1923.)

THE title of this book is scarcely adequate, for the work treats of many periods, from that of the "eoliths" to neolithic times. Many of Mr. Moir's views were at first regarded with profound scepticism, but are being accepted by an ever-increasing number of competent judges at home and abroad. In the work before us they are briefly summarised, but the account is too condensed to do justice to the author's discoveries. We hope that in the not distant future he will write a detailed work on the pre-history of East Anglia, and that it will be illustrated by Mr. E. T. Lingwood, the excellence of whose illustrations in the work before us is noteworthy.

Three important questions arise with regard to the Cromer flints here described: (1) Are they derived from Pliocene beds? (2) Are they artefacts? (3) If they are, to which cultural period do they belong? The evidence bearing upon the first two questions is only summarised in the work before us, though more fully stated in papers to which reference is made. After reading that evidence, and after a visit to the spot under the author's guidance, the reviewer is of opinion that Mr. Moir is correct in his contention that the flints were once embedded in a Pliocene pebble-deposit, and that many of them are undoubted artefacts. Stress is laid upon the last point, as the specimens figured here will probably be regarded with suspicion by sceptics, and many others which are not figured are more convincing.

The reference to the early Chellean period is regarded only as a probability by the author, but perusal of this and other of his writings leads one to consider that he has made out a good case in favour of this probability.

*The Happy Traveller: a Book for Poor Men.* By the Rev. Frank Tatchell. Pp. xii+271. (London: Methuen and Co., Ltd., 1923.) 7s. 6d. net.

THE author of this distinctly original book is a Sussex vicar, and we can picture him setting out for Hierusalem from the Middeherst of the twelfth century, in robust amity with all whom he might meet upon the way. Once outside the door of home (p. vii), he is never conscious of an obstacle. Like the young Jesuit Thomas Stevens, whose letter is preserved by Hakluyt, he is going to see his first shark, his first flying-fish (p. 140), and to learn, by personal encounter, the essential glory of the earth. Even between the poplars of a *route nationale* Mr. Tatchell goes on foot. He is forced to embark on liners for the greater seas; but he has travelled as a steerage passenger and as a steward, and we learn that "the 'deck' passages on Japanese boats are especially good."

The lists of common phrases in foreign languages might well have been omitted. We cannot judge the Burmese and the six words of Papuan, and they may be "happier" than the French. Yet we should be sorry to lose the conversation between the vicar-designate and the Fijian damsel on pp. 225-6. The notes on local customs are always helpful, and are backed by a truly catholic philosophy. Touches like the following add a sparkle to the printed page. "If you want to preserve your illusions, do not visit Palestine" (p. iv). "Should you be attacked by a mob in the East, hurt one of the crowd and hurt him quickly" (p. 23). "If you are in the steerage, take also some fruit and jam and a bottle of rum, which nowhere tastes so well as at sea" (p. 139). R. L. Stevenson would have enjoyed this passage, and he would have endorsed the maxim on p. 7: "The beaten track is the best track, but devote most of your time to the by-ways."

G. A. J. C.

*The Coconut Palm: the Science and Practice of Coconut Cultivation.* By H. C. Sampson. Pp. xv+262+40 plates. (London: J. Bale, Sons, and Danielsson, Ltd., 1923.) 31s. 6d. net.

THIS book is a welcome departure from the usual type of manual that deals in generalities about the plant concerned, with a fuller account of the methods of cultivation. Its author is to be congratulated upon having broken new ground, and it is by such study as is described in this volume that we may hope to arrive in time at a really scientific method of cultivating and treating the palm. Detailed scientific observations are given, for example, upon the numbers, the direction of growth, and the behaviour of the roots, a subject upon which we have usually had only vague generalities to go upon. Many other subjects are treated in the same way, e.g. the flowering, the relative proportions of flowers that set fruit, and so on.

The second part of the book deals with plantation management, and gives a very good, clear, and well-reasoned account of the methods in use, and the reasons for them—an account which will repay study even by the experienced coconut planter. In Part III. the products of the coconut palm are dealt with, and the methods of preparation employed in South India, the coconut products of which command the highest