

of fixed and moving marks is employed, which is observed by both eyes simultaneously through a pair of telescopes provided with a suitable system of prisms; in others two pairs of marks are made use of, one of which is seen in the middle of the field of view of each of the two telescopes, so that the appearance is that of a single pair. The two moving marks are geared together, and driven either by hand or by a small hot-air motor. If the fields of view of the two telescopes are equally "bright," the mark appears to move to and fro, horizontally, in a straight line, its point passing just above the point of the fixed mark; a difference of brightness makes it appear to revolve round the fixed mark. This is independent of the colour of the two lights which are being compared. It is also possible to adjust the two sides of the apparatus to equality of brightness with an accuracy of 2 to 3 per cent., however great the difference of colour may be, provided the observer has sufficient experience, and good spectroscopic vision. In the stereospectral photometer, two monochromators are employed, one for each telescope, so that practically monochromatic light of different wave-lengths can be employed. A form of photometer, which enables one-half of the spectrum to be balanced against the other half, promises to be valuable in pyrometry.

*Malaya: the Straits Settlements and the Federated and Unfederated Malay States.* Edited by Dr. R. O. Winstedt. Pp. xi+283. (London, Bombay and Sydney: Constable and Co., Ltd., 1923.) 12s. net.

This authoritative and comprehensive handbook will come as a boon to all who are interested in or in any way connected with the Malay Peninsula. The editor, a well-known authority and the author of several works on the Malayan language, is himself responsible for the chapters on the population, the ethnology, and languages of the Peninsula; Malayan literature; arts and crafts; religion and beliefs; and history and archæology, as well as the account of the Eurasian, Chinese, and other races of the country.

Other chapters are the work of experts in their respective departments. Mr. J. B. Scrivenor, the Government Geologist, describes the geography, geology, and mineralogy of the country, as well as its mining industry. Dr. F. W. Foxworthy deals with the flora and forests, and Mr. F. C. Robinson of the Federated States Museum with the fauna. Mr. B. J. Eaton, Director of Agriculture, deals with this and other industries, while Mr. Pountney, Financial Adviser to the Straits Settlements, analyses revenue and expenditure. The sections on the Straits Settlements, the Federated and Unfederated States, which will be found particularly helpful, are the work of the editor. An adequate, if not lengthy, bibliography is an excellent guide to those who seek further information. The book is well illustrated and well produced.

*A Tested Method of Laboratory Organisation.* By S. Pile and R. G. Johnston. Pp. xx+98. (London: H. F. and G. Witherby, 1923.) 7s. 6d. net.

THE authors of this little book were associated with a co-operative laboratory established during the War by a number of Birmingham brass firms, and their conclusions are mainly based on experience gained in that

laboratory. They give many useful notes on the equipment and arrangement of works and control laboratories, on the preparation of samples, and on the methods of recording the source of the sample and the results of its examination, whether analytical, mechanical, or physical. Their treatment of the subject of laboratory books and the entering of results is very thorough, and they go so far as to describe a system of costing in units by means of which a monetary value may be attached to each operation. While the scale of the work is too small for it to serve as a manual of laboratory equipment, it will be found particularly useful by those who have to instal a small laboratory in a works, especially in one of the metallurgical industries. The question of the relations between the superintendent and his staff is also dealt with, but the closing chapters, under such headings as "The Mentality of the Scientist," seem rather out of place in an essentially practical note-book.

*Among Unknown Eskimo.* By J. W. Bilby. Pp. 280+16 plates. (London: Seeley, Service and Co., Ltd., 1923.) 21s. net.

THE Eskimo of Mr. Bilby's title can be accurately described as "unknown" only in relation to the public for whom he writes—a public which normally does not have access to scientific publications. His account of the customs, modes of life, and beliefs of the Central Eskimo of Baffin Land is, however, something more than a book with a merely popular appeal. A residence of twelve years among these tribes qualifies him to give ritual and belief their proper setting and perspective in the everyday round in a manner which is not always possible in an analytic study. This has a value which anthropologists will readily acknowledge; but Mr. Bilby's intense appreciation of the native attitude of mind to tribal observances, and his keen insight into the dynamic relation of such observances to conduct, have obscured the fact that these do not necessarily tell the whole story. Accordingly, he is prone to offer as an interpretation of native practices the immediate social effect and the psychological factors which come into play in certain elements of ritual, to the neglect of deeper causes. An appendix gives a valuable list of some fifty departmental deities of the Eskimo with their attributes.

*Edmund Loder; Naturalist, Horticulturist, Traveller and Sportsman: a Memoir.* By Sir Alfred E. Pease. With Contributions by St. George Littledale, Charles G. A. Nix, Lord Cottesloe, J. G. Millais, and W. P. Pycraft. Pp. x+356. (London: John Murray, 1923.) 18s. net.

THE friends and acquaintances—and of a man so accomplished and of such wide interests as was Sir Edmund Loder, these are many—will be glad to possess this "miniature" of his remarkable personality. Sir Alfred Pease has not attempted to depict a life-size portrait; but by wise selection, and with the assistance of other contributors, he succeeds in conveying a very clear impression. The reviewer can perhaps pay no higher tribute than by stating that though he was not privileged to know Sir Edmund personally he closed the book with the feeling that he knows well what manner of man he was.