

different, the optical density of the liquid being more than double that of the vapour.—**M. Duffieux**: The origin of the first and second positive group of the band spectrum of nitrogen.—**H. Chipart**: The electromagnetic theory of optical activity and the postulate of MacCullagh.—**H. Pélabon**: The direct formation of the oxychlorides, oxybromides, and oxyiodides of mercury. Mercuric chloride, bromide, and iodide can unite directly with yellow or red mercuric oxide, dry or in the presence of water. In the last case the equilibrium is affected by alkali dissolved from the glass containing-vessel.—**Stefan Triandafil**: The influence of temperature on the galvanic polarisation of nickel.—**René Dubrissay**: The capillary phenomena which appear at the surface of separation of water and benzene in the presence of the fatty acids and of alkalies.—**Francis Perrin**: The law of decrease of the fluorescent power as a function of the concentration.—**E. Darmois**: The compounds of malic acid and copper. Measurements of the  $P_H$  and rotations of solutions of copper hydroxide in malic acid indicated the presence of two malates only, the acid salt and Liebig's basic salt.—**M. Bourguet**: The transformation of the substituted acetylene hydrocarbons into true hydrocarbons by sodium amide. Hydrocarbons of the type  $RC\equiv C.CH_3$  are readily transformed by heating with sodium amide at  $110^\circ C.$  into hydrocarbons of the type  $(CH_3)_2R.C\equiv CH$ . The homologues  $RC\equiv C.C_2H_5$  undergo a similar change, but much more slowly.—**A. J. A. Guillaumin**: The action of hydroxylamine on ethyl tartrate.—**Alphonse Mailhe**: The decomposition of chlorophyll extracts. Distilled with magnesium or zinc chloride, these extracts give a gas rich in carbon dioxide, a mixture of liquid hydrocarbons containing a high proportion of olefines, and a solid, probably dinonylketone  $(C_9H_{19})_2CO$ .—**P. Lasareff**: The mass of metallic iron contained in the ferruginous deposits at Koursk (Central Russia).—**Albert Nodon**: Observations on the propagation of the explosive waves resulting from the experiments at La Courtine. Details of the methods employed to measure the velocities of the air waves and earth waves caused by the explosions at La Courtine, distance 243 kilometres.—**P. Gillot**: Remarks on the determinism of sex in *Mercurialis annua*. This plant is unsuitable for investigations on sexual determinism.—**A. Maige**: The different stages of amylogenic condensation.—**D. Chouchack**: Influence of the nutritive elements on the development of soil bacteria.—**F. Granel**: The pseudobranchia of the selacians.—**MM. Barthélemy and Bonnet**: The influence of the temperature on the utilisation of energy in the course of the development of the egg of *Rana fusca*.—**MM. J. E. Abelous, Moog, and Soula**: Splenectomy and the demineralisation of the organism.—**P. Le Noir and A. Mathieu de Fossey**: Study of the ionic urinary acidity in normal man. The influence of food.—**MM. Pézard, Sand, and Caridroit**: Hormono-sexual modifications in adult Gallinaceae and the theory of specific form.

### Official Publications Received.

Annales de l'Institut de Physique du Globe de l'Université de Paris et du Bureau Central de Magnétisme terrestre. Publiées par les soins de Prof. Ch. Mairan. Tome 2. Pp. viii+150. (Paris: Les Presses universitaires de France.)

Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources: Weather Bureau, Annual Report of the Weather Bureau for the Year 1920. Part 4: Hourly Results of Observations made at the Magnetic Observatory of Antipolo near Manila, P.I., during the Calendar Year 1920. Pp. 47. (Manila: Bureau of Printing.)

Department of Commerce: Bureau of Standards. Scientific Papers of the Bureau of Standards, No. 486: Some new Thermoelectrical and Actinoelectrical Properties of Molybdenite. By W. W. Coblenz. Pp. 375-418. (Washington: Government Printing Office.) 10 cents.

Annual Conference of the Universities of Great Britain and Ireland, 1924. Report of Proceedings. Pp. 63. (London: Universities Bureau of the British Empire.) 1s.

### Diary of Societies.

SATURDAY, JULY 5.

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (Joint Meeting with the Institution of Civil Engineers), at 11.30.—Draft Standard Test Code for Hydraulic Power Plants, drawn up by a Joint Committee of the Institutions of Civil and Mechanical Engineers.

RONTGEN SOCIETY AND THE ELECTRO-THERAPEUTICS SECTION OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Joint Meeting at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford), at 3.30.—Sir Thomas Horder: The Influence of Radiology upon the Criteria of Disease (Mackenzie Davidson Memorial Lecture).—Prof. S. Russ: Experimental Studies upon the Lethal Dose of X-rays and Radium for Animal Tumours.

MONDAY, JULY 7.

INSTITUTION OF SANITARY ENGINEERS (at Royal United Service Institution), at 10 A.M. and 2.—International Conference.

PHOTOGRAPHIC CONVENTION (at Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain), in afternoon.—Presidential Address.—Annual General Meeting.

FARADAY SOCIETY (at Chemical Society), at 7.45.—Annual General Meeting.—At 8.—G. R. D. Hogg: Note on the Conduction of Heat down the Necks of Metal Vacuum Vessels containing Liquid Oxygen.—C. L. Haddon: The Mechanism of Setting of Calcium Sulphate Cements.—J. J. Doolan and Prof. J. R. Partington: The Vapour Pressure of Tellurium.—E. E. Turner and W. H. Patterson: Cryoscopy in Sodium Sulphate Decahydrate.—D. B. McLeod: The Viscosity of Binary Mixtures.—J. B. Firth and F. S. Watson: The Catalytic Decomposition of Hydrogen Peroxide Solution by Animal Charcoal.—The Production of Highly Active Charcoals.—Prof. A. J. Allmand and A. N. Campbell: The Electrodeposition of Manganese.—J. Grant: Concentration-Cells in Methyl Alcohol. Part II. Solutions containing Tetraethyl Ammonium Iodide.—F. H. Jeffery: The Electrolysis of Solutions of Potassium Oxalate with a Tin Anode and an Electrometric Determination of the Constitution of the Complex Anions formed.—F. J. Fraser: An Improved Form of Crook's Elutriator.

THE ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY (at University of London Club), at 8.—Prof. H. Wildon Carr: The Scientific Approach to Philosophy.

TUESDAY, JULY 8.

INSTITUTION OF SANITARY ENGINEERS (at Royal United Service Institution), at 10 A.M. and 2.—International Conference.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.30.—Prof. Elihu Thomson: Electrical Progress and its Unsolved Problems (James Forrest Lecture).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9.

INSTITUTION OF SANITARY ENGINEERS (at Royal United Service Institution), at 10 A.M. and 2.—International Conference.

DECIMAL ASSOCIATION (Decimal-Metric Conference) (at Institution of Electrical Engineers), at 11, 2.30, and 4.30.—Discussion on Decimal Coinage—Ancient and Modern Weighing Appliances and other Appliances (Lecture)—Discussion on Metric System.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Sub-section of Proctology (Section of Surgery): Annual Clinical Meeting in conjunction with the American Proctologic Society), at 11.—Dr. Jackson: Quo vadis?—Dr. Beach: The Evolution of Proctology.—At 5.30.—Graeme Anderson and others: Discussion on The Injection Treatment of Hemorrhoids.

RADIO SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN (Informal Meeting) (at Institution of Electrical Engineers), at 6.—P. R. Coursey: The Manufacture of Condensers.

THURSDAY, JULY 10.

INSTITUTION OF SANITARY ENGINEERS (at Royal United Service Institution), at 10 A.M. and 2.—International Conference.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS (Kelvin Centenary), at 12.30.—Dr. A. Russell: Address.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS (Kelvin Centenary), at 4.30.—Sir J. J. Thomson: Kelvin Centenary Oration.—Presentation of the Kelvin Medal, 1923, to Prof. Elihu Thomson.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Sub-section of Proctology (Section of Surgery): Annual Clinical Meeting in conjunction with the American Proctologic Society), at 4.30.—Dr. Montague and others: Discussion on The Treatment of Pruritus Ani.—Dr. Hirschman and others: Discussion on The Treatment of Rectal Prolapse.

FRIDAY, JULY 11.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Sub-section of Proctology (Section of Surgery): Annual Clinical Meeting in conjunction with the American Proctologic Society), at 4.30.—W. E. Miles and Mr. Lockhart-Mummery: Discussion on The Treatment of Cancer of the Rectum.

Editorial and Publishing Offices:

MACMILLAN & CO., LTD.,

ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON, W.C.2.

Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor.

Advertisements and business letters to the Publishers.

Telephone Number: GERRARD 8830.

Telegraphic Address: PHUSIS, WESTRAND, LONDON.