

palladium black. The oxidation of unsaturated secondary alcohols can only be carried out in a gaseous system at low pressures, but the yields are not good.—André Cornillot: The bis-phthalide carboxylic esters.—P. Gaubert: Detection (in wireless telephony) and the facies of crystals of galena and pyrites.—Conrad Kilian: The proportion in which the Silurian period is represented by its formation of the Tessian enclosure, and on the presence of the Ordovician in the Sahara.—G. Georgalas and N. Liatsikas: The spectrum analysis of the flames from the Santorin volcano (eruption of 1925). From the lines recorded in the spectrograph, the gaseous mixture issuing from the central dome of the volcano contained hydrogen, vapour of sodium chloride, oxygen, nitrogen, and probably ferric chloride.—F. X. Skupiński: The evolutive cycle in *Didymium difforme*.—A. Hée: The influence of temperature on the intensity of respiration of submerged plants. The plants studied were *Elodea canadensis*, *Myriophyllum spicatum*, and *Cladophora*, and the temperatures varied between 10° C. and 39°·5 C. The respiration increased with rise of temperature and there was no optimum temperature.—P. P. Stanesco: The quantitative variations of the carbohydrates in the leaves of green plants in the course of a day.—M. Bridel and C. Béguin: The application of the biochemical method of research to the glucosides undergoing hydrolysis by rhamnodiastase to the study of the fresh roots of *Polygonum cuspidatum*. The production of a new glucoside, polydatoside. The results of the action of rhamnodiastase on the root extract indicated the presence of a new glucoside. Details of the mode of extraction and purification of this substance are given, together with its physical and chemical properties.—L. Mercier: The orthogenesis of the longitudinal vibrator muscles of flight in the Diptera.—Jean Piveteau: The importance of structural characters in the interpretation of certain fossils classed with the reptiles.—Maurice Aubertot: The contractility of the excretory apparatus in the larvæ of *Rhabditis pellio*.—L. M. Bétancès: The genesis of the hæmatopoietic organs and of the blood cells in the invertebrates.—A. Policard: The movements of sarcomatous cells cultivated *in vitro*. The most marked characteristic of the sarcomatous cells is incessant and rapid amœboid movement.—Raymond-Hamet: The action of yohimbine and the active alkaloids of ergot on the sympathetic vasomotor innervation of the kidney.—J. Risler and Foveau de Courmelles: The physiological action of the ultra-violet rays transmitted by the thin glass in ordinary use. It is generally held that ultra-violet rays emitted by a source of light in the interior of a glass apparatus are not harmful. Four cases of accident resulting from the use of apparatus constructed of light glass are described which show that injurious effects on the skin can be produced by the absorption of rays in the region between  $\lambda = 2960 \text{ \AA.U.}$  and  $\lambda = 3120 \text{ \AA.U.}$ —Daniel Berthelot: Remarks on the preceding communication. Additional data confirming the results.—R. Fosse: The formation, by heating plant juices, of urea and of a substance giving the same hydrazine colour reaction as formol. The simultaneous formation, by heating plant juices, of urea and of a substance giving the colour reaction of formol, results from the hydrolysis of a ureide.—G. Delamare and Saïd Djémil: Abnormal forms of *Plasmodium vivax*.—A. Paillet: A new disease of the nucleus or *grasserie* of the larvæ of *Pieris brassicæ* and a new group of micro-organisms.—Mme. Phisalix: The natural immunity of the eel against the virus of hydrophobia and the rabicidal action of its serum. The eel is naturally refractory to hydrophobia and

its serum destroys the virus of hydrophobia *in vitro*. The serum can also be used to protect animals against hydrophobia.—B. Issatchenko: Nitrification in the sea.—X. Debedat: Ulcerated Röntgen epitheliomas cured by high frequency treatment (diathermo-coagulation). After giving details of his own cure by this treatment, the author concludes that radiologists need not die of cancer brought on by their work.

### Official Publications Received.

- Board of Trade. Catalogue of the British Industries Fair 1926, The White City, Shepherds Bush, London, W.12, February 15th-26th. Organised by the Department of Overseas Trade. Pp. xxx+176+112. (London: Department of Overseas Trade.) 1s.
- Memoirs of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. Vol. 6: Zoological Results of a Tour in the Far East. Edited by Dr. N. Annandale. Part 10: The Amphipoda of Talé Sap. By Dr. Chas. Chilton. Pp. 531-558. 1.2 rupees. Vol. 9, No. 2: Geographic and Oceanographic Research in Indian Waters. By Major R. B. Seymour Sewell. Part 2: A Study of the Nature of the Sea-Bed and of the Deep-Sea Deposits of the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. Pp. 27-50+plates 6-7. 2.4 rupees. (Calcutta.)
- Meddelelser fra Kommissionen for Havundersøgelser. Serie Fiskeri, Bind 8, Nr. 1: On the Age and Growth of the Haddock (*Gadus oglefinus* L.) and the Whiting (*Gadus merlangus* L.) in Icelandic Waters. By Bjarni Semundsson. Pp. 33. Serie Fiskeri, Bind 8, Nr. 2: On the Diurnal Vertical Movements of Young of some Fishes in Danish Waters. By Dr. A. C. Johansen. Pp. 27. (København: C. A. Reitzel.)
- Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy. Vol. 37, Section A, No. 2: A Quaternary Substitute for the Theory of Tensors. By W. J. Johnston. Pp. 13-27. (Dublin: Hodges, Figgis and Co.; London: Williams and Norgate, Ltd.) 1s.
- Union of South Africa. Department of Mines and Industries: Geological Survey. Geological Map of the Union of South Africa. On the Scale of One to a Million. In 4 Sheets, 40 in. x 30 in. The Geological Structure of the Union: an Explanation of the Geological Map of the Union of South Africa. By Dr. A. W. Rogers. Pp. 34. 6s. Map, with Explanation, 26s. (Pretoria: Government Printing and Stationery Office.)

### Diary of Societies.

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

- BRITISH PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (Industrial Section) (at National Institute of Industrial Psychology, 329 High Holborn), at 11.30.—Prof. Pear: What is meant by Skill in Industry.
- ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, at 3.—Dr. G. Macdonald: Roman Britain (1).
- GILBERT WHITE FELLOWSHIP (at 6 Queen Square, W.C.), at 3.—G. Avenell: A Glance at Richard Jefferies (Lecture).
- PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY (at King's College).

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

- ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY (Dublin), at 4.15.
- ROYAL SOCIETY, EDINBURGH, at 4.30.—Rev. T. C. Gordon: The Finding of the Galilee Skull.—Prof. A. Robinson: A Scientific Description of a Neanderthal Skull found in Galilee, from a Cast.
- INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES, at 5.—C. R. V. Coutts: On the Distribution of Life Office Profits.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, at 5.—Sir Arthur Keith: Fossil Remains of Ape and Man (1): The Taungs Anthropoid: its Zoological and Geological Position.
- FARADAY SOCIETY (at Chemical Society), at 5.30.—Prof. A. J. Allmand and R. H. D. Barklie: The Influence of Alternating Currents on the Electrolytic Corrosion of Iron.—A. N. Campbell: The Direct Oxidation of Manganous Ion to Permanganate.—H. J. Poole: The Elasticity of Jellies of Cellulose Acetate in Relation to their Physical Structure and Chemical Equilibria.—F. G. Tryhorn and W. F. Wyatt: Adsorption II. The Adsorption by a Coconut Charcoal of Saturated Vapours of some Pure Liquids. Adsorption III. Stages in the Adsorption by a Coconut Charcoal from the Saturated Vapour over Liquid Mixtures of Alcohol and Benzene and of Acetone and Benzene.—I. R. McHaffie: A Device for Circulating Fluids under High Pressure.
- BRITISH INSTITUTE OF PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES (at Bedford College for Women), at 5.30.—Prof. J. Johnstone: The Organism and its Environment (Lecture).
- INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS (Informal Meeting), at 7.—A. F. Harmer and others: Discussion on Some Changing Characteristics in the Application of Electricity to Public Supply.
- INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS (North-Eastern Centre) (at Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne), at 7.—J. L. Thompson and H. Walsley: Notes on the Testing of Static Transformers.
- INSTITUTE OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS (Midland Counties Branch) (at Birmingham), at 7.30.—H. F. Lea: Arterial Road Construction.
- ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Dr. G. W. C. Kaye: The Production and Measurement of High Vacua (Cantor Lectures) (2).
- ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Odontology Section), at 8.—Sir Frank Colyer: Abnormal Teeth from the Region of the Premaxilla.
- RAILWAY CLUB (at 65 Belgrave Road), at 8.15.—B. M. Bazley: Development of the Railway Carriage.
- ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY (at Æolian Hall), at 8.30.