

group of papers by representatives of different countries dealing with industrial lighting. The various papers presented thus cover a wide ground, and it is evident that the work of the Commission is extending. The interchange of views between experts in different countries is helping towards the formulation of common principles of illumination, and it is to be noted that international committees are now engaged on a variety of problems.

*The Historical Geography of Early Ireland.* By Walter Fitzgerald. (*The Geographical Teacher* Supplement No. 1.) Pp. vii+100. (London: George Philip and Son, Ltd.; Liverpool: Philip, Son and Nephew, Ltd., 1926.) 5s. net (to Members of the Geographical Association, 4s. net).

THIS work is worthy of a better exterior. A closely printed pamphlet is apt to repel a reader, who would peruse with delight the same matter in an attractive book. Having said this, and having added a word of censure on the poor scratchy drawings of gold ornaments (p. 70), we proceed to the pleasant task of commendation. Mr. Fitzgerald has undertaken, and has done well, a work long overdue; although the way was prepared by the late Prof. Cole's short but notable "Ireland the Outpost." In the past the history and antiquities of Ireland on one hand, and her geology and geography on the other, have received attention; Mr. Fitzgerald shows the interrelation of the two sets of facts. The first half of the book is occupied with geography, and is illustrated with many valuable maps; the second half is archaeological and historical, and is likewise illustrated with maps of the distribution of types of implements, roadways, colonisation-areas, the routes of early Irish enterprise on the Continent, etc.

We sincerely hope that the author will expand his work into a 'full-dress' book, and we venture in anticipation to offer a friendly hint or two. 'Gaeillon' (p. 63) should be *Gaileoin*: 'Ushnagh' should be *Uisneach*. The Cat-stone is not on this hill, but on the slope of the hill next to it; and it is not a dolmen, but a large erratic boulder (the author has been misled by Borlase's imposing but unsatisfactory "Dolmens of Ireland," which should be used with discretion). And let him be cautious about taking literally the legends of the Tuatha Dé Danann; the complex stratification of these strange tales must be worked out much more critically than has yet been done, before they can be safely utilised in a study such as this.

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*Coal: Ways to Reconstruction. Being a Sequel to "The Coal Crisis and the Future."* By Members of Leplay House. Pp. vi+58. (London: Leplay House Press, 1926.) 2s.

THIS volume consists of a number of articles by various contributors, and, as is stated in the preface, the studies are both complementary and divergent. The main thesis, however, is that reconstruction in the coal industry is to be effected by means of regional planning. The application of the surveys is to be based on the co-ordination of the recommendations of the several experts, while the corresponding theory of the "transition from the confused empiricism of

current business and politics to an ordered advance" is to be supplied by the sociologist. Prof. Geddes contributes an interesting summary of the methods of regional planning, and advocates regional surveys of the coal districts as a preliminary to the solution of the problem. Then follow articles by Prof. Desch and Prof. Hay, who both emphasise the importance of better methods of coal utilisation. The former deplors the present wasteful methods, while the latter holds that there is more hope for the industry in improved systems of coal consumption than in reorganisation of the mines.

Prof. Hay's thoughtful survey, which can be commended to those interested in the problem, stresses the importance of a greater production per man-shift, the development of markets, and the stabilisation of prices. At the same time he pleads for more understanding among the various parties, consumer, owner, and miner. An abstract of a previous volume is given by Mr. Sandeman, while Mr. Victor Branford contributes a theoretical exposition illustrating the application of sociological principles.

*Superpower: its Genesis and Future.* By William Spencer Murray. Pp. ix+237. (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co. Inc.; London: McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., Ltd., 1925.) 15s. net.

THE term 'superpower' is used to indicate a "greater unity of effort and broader co-ordination in (electrical) power production and utilisation." The author was chairman of a committee authorised by Congress to study the possibilities of superpower in the Boston-Washington zone. This committee began its activities in July 1920 and twelve months later presented its report (*Professional Paper* 123, U.S. Geological Survey).

The present book is to some extent an amplification of that report. It contains many interesting reflections and personal touches which will make it good leisure-time reading to those who have read the original report. A wide survey of the problem is made and a considerable portion of the book is devoted to finance, but the difficulties involved in standardisation of frequency and the stereotyping of generation and distribution methods in an age of rapid progress do not appear to have been dwelt upon sufficiently. W. T. D.

*A Bibliography of Indian Geology.* Part IV. *Palæontological Index.* Compiled by T. H. D. LaTouche. Pp. iv+vii+414. (Calcutta: Government of India Central Publication Branch, 1926.) 7.4 rupees; 11s. 6d.

SINCE his retirement from the Geological Survey of India, Mr. T. H. D. LaTouche has devoted his leisure time to the great task of compiling a bibliography of Indian geology. Part I. A gives a list of authors' names in alphabetical order with the titles of their papers arranged chronologically; Part I. B is an index of minerals; Part II. an index of localities; Part III. an index of subjects. Part IV., which has just been issued, gives an alphabetical list of the species of Indian fossils, followed by references to the works in which each species is described. This index will be indispensable to palæontologists whether they are dealing with the fossils of India or of other countries.