

The Annual of the British School at Athens

No. 33, Session 1932-1933. Pp. viii+262+35 plates. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1935.) 63s. net.

THE thirty-third number of the Annual of the British School of Archaeology at Athens contains the report of the Committee of Management—of which Prof. J. L. Myres is now chairman in succession to Mr. George Macmillan, whose retirement is recorded with great regret—on the operations of the school up to the close of the session 1932-33. In this period excavations were conducted at the Heraeum at Perachora by the director (Mr. H. G. C. Payne), in Mytilene by Miss W. Lamb, at the Isthmian Sanctuary by Mr. R. J. H. Jenkins, and at Knossos by the director and Mr. H. A. Blakeway. The results obtained at each are briefly summarised.

Of the papers by members of the School, which are included in the volume, first place is given to the excavations at Ithaca. Lord Rennell of Rodd discusses "The Ithaca of the Odyssey", and Messrs. W. A. Heurtley and H. S. Lorimer describe the excavation of the site which has been selected as in all probability the most profitable for the investigation. Among the remaining papers may be mentioned an account of journeys or archaeological exploration in Crete by Messrs. J. D. S. Pendlebury, E. Eccles and M. B. Money-Coutts, in which the existence of thirty-five new archaeological sites is recorded, bringing the number now known in the island up to well over six hundred; while a valuable "Prolegomena to the Study of Greek Commerce in Italy, Sicily and France in the Eighth and Seventh Centuries B.C.", by Mr. H. A. Blakeway, is based on the concrete, but much neglected, evidence of Greek geometric pottery and its imitations of a date older than the oldest colonial burials at Syracuse, which have been found at no less than twenty-eight different sites in Italy, Sicily and France from Apulia to Marseilles. Archaeologists will echo the author's expression of surprise at the neglect of this important body of evidence by historians.

Limnology

By Prof. Paul S. Welch. (McGraw-Hill Publications in the Zoological Sciences.) Pp. xiv+471. (New York and London: McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1935.) 30s. net.

THIS is the first book written in English which deals at all comprehensively with inland waters, and, as such, it is greatly to be welcomed. In it Prof. Welch has correlated in easily available fashion information which has been gained by investigators in America and elsewhere. Naturally the author knows the work of his own countrymen best, and the result is of special advantage to English and European limnologists. A great many facts are included in the book, and the presentation of them is necessarily condensed. Consequently, the work is one rather of reference than of an introductory nature suitable for students just beginning the study of fresh water.

Most of the book is occupied with information about lakes and other standing-water environments. Only thirty pages are devoted to running water, and

of these thirty pages, ten are given over to a consideration of the plankton, which, if not accidental, is at least incidental. The author has as his unifying principle "the biological productivity of inland waters . . . with all the causal influences which determine it". In England, interest is concentrated on the correlation between the physiology of organisms living in fresh water, and the environment in which they are found. This aspect of limnological problems is not specially emphasised, but full references are given to original papers about the effects of physical and chemical conditions in the environment on living organisms.

The Angler's Week-end Book

By Eric Taverner and John Moore. Pp. 512. (London: Seeley, Service and Co., Ltd., n.d.) 8s. 6d. net.

THE "Compleat Angler" has long been accorded the rank of a 'classic', though there have been some who will only allow that it is good in parts. But these dissentients, at any rate, will accord a whole-hearted welcome to the present small volume. Moreover, it will appeal not only to the angler, but also to all who have a kindly feeling for our undisturbed water-ways, and their inhabitants, other than human. For these delightful pages afford entertainment for every mood, made up, as they are, of 'fishermen's tales' told with unusual skill, selections from the writers of the past, from Chaucer onwards, in prose and poem, ancient recipes for the gourmet for cooking fish, as well as observations on fish and their habits, record weights of fish, and a store of information on fishing, flies and tackle.

It is a book for the fire-side, a book to be dipped into, again and again, and always with relish. A number of quaint wood-cuts add not a little to its charm.

Many will agree that even the splendours of old Isaac Walton pale beside it. For the reiterated eulogies of "the good bishop Dubravius", Gesner and Pliny, are apt to grow tiresome. It may not be said, with truth, that the "Compleat Angler" is now superseded, but at least it has a formidable rival in this volume. W. P. P.

Le pansoma et la géométrie de l'énergie

Par Dr. A. C. Léemann. Pp. viii+257. (Genève: Georg et Cie, 1935.) 15 francs.

THIS book attempts to show that the conception of the three dimensional extension of the quantum of energy is sufficient to provide a complete description of Nature (p. 4). A quantum is supposed in its normal form to occupy a cube (p. 18) the edges of which are quantised in terms of the diameter of a proton (p. 10). The quotient of the quantum by the quantised edge is the available energy (p. 13). The faces of the cubes are in tension, and neighbouring quanta exert pressure on each other (p. 19). For the reasons for many fundamental statements of this kind the reader is referred to later pages, and there appear to be serious gaps and inconsistencies in the argument which will require to be removed before the author's ideas can be clearly understood.