

lake in southern Oregon is in the crater of an extinct volcano, the walls of which mostly rise abruptly to 500–2,000 ft. The only known source of water supply is the precipitation within the crater; the average depth is 1,500 ft. The water of the lake is remarkably blue in appearance. It is comparatively pure and free from suspended sediment and dissolved matter. Laboratory tests of specimens suggest that the blue colour is due to scattering of light by water molecules. A. E. MIRSKY: The visual cycle and protein denaturation. Recent work on conjugated proteins suggests that visual purple is such a compound, a carotenoid-protein. Light denatures visual purple, forming a compound, visual yellow, in which the carotenoid group is loosely bound to the protein; in the dark, denaturation reverses. The function of retinene is to provide an increased absorption coefficient in the visible spectrum, to sensitise the protein.

Forthcoming Events

Monday, April 20

VICTORIA INSTITUTE, at 4.30 (at the Central Hall, Westminster).—G. R. Gair: "The Races and Peoples of the Early Hebrew World: a Study in Ethnology".

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Dr. R. E. Stradling: "Problems of Road Research" (Peter le Neve Foster Lectures. Succeeding lectures on April 27 and May 4).

Tuesday, April 21

SOCIETY FOR STUDY OF INEBRIETY AND DRUG ADDICTION, at 4 (at 11 Chandos Street, London, W.1).—Dr. J. D. Rolleston: "On Snuff Taking".

INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY AND RESEARCH, St. Mary's Hospital, W.2, at 5.—Pathological Research in its Relation to Medicine. Sir Almoth Wright, F.R.S.: "Some Results of Recent Research".

Thursday, April 23

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 6.—Dr. J. D. Cockcroft: "The Transmutations of Matter by High-Energy Particles and Radiations" (Twenty-seventh Kelvin Lecture).

FARADAY SOCIETY, April 20–22. General Discussion on "Disperse Systems in Gases: Dust, Smoke and Fog" to be held at the University of Leeds.

Official Publications Received

Great Britain and Ireland

Technical Publications of the International Tin Research and Development Council. Series A, No. 31: The Constitution of the Tin-Rich Antimony-Tin Alloys. By Prof. D. Hanson and W. T. Pell-Walpole. Pp. 12. Free. Series A, No. 32: Influence of Surface Cuprous Oxide Inclusions on the Porosity of Hot-Tinned Coatings on Copper. By Dr. W. D. Jones. Pp. 8. Free. Series A, No. 33: The Hot-Tinning of Copper; the Attack on the Basis Metal and its Effects. By E. J. Daniels. Pp. 10. Free. (London: International Tin Research and Development Council.) [233]

Engineers' Study Group on Economics. Interim Report on the Design of a Family Budget with Special Reference to Food. Pp. 20 (London: Engineers' Study Group on Economics.) 6d. [243]

Proceedings of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Session 1935–1936. Vol. 56, Part 1, No. 1: The Lunar Atmospheric Tide at Glasgow. By Prof. S. Chapman. Pp. 5. 6d. Vol. 56, Part 1, No. 2: The Effect of Present Trends in Fertility and Mortality upon the Future Population of Scotland and upon its Age Composition. By Dr. Enid Charles. Pp. 6–12. 6d. (Edinburgh: Robert Grant and Son, Ltd.; London: Williams and Norgate, Ltd.) [243]

Other Countries

Reprint and Circular Series of the National Research Council. No. 107: Industrial Prospecting. By C. F. Kettering. Pp. 3. (Washington, D.C.: National Research Council.) 25 cents. [233]

U.S. Department of the Interior: Geological Survey. Bulletin 853: Zinc and Lead Deposits of Northern Arkansas. By Edwin T. McKnight. Pp. vi+311+11 plates. 1 dollar. Bulletin 868-A: Mineral Industry of Alaska in 1934. By Philip S. Smith. Pp. ii+91+13a. 10 cents. Water-Supply Paper 759: Surface Water Supply of the United States, 1934. Part 4: St. Lawrence River Basin. Pp. vi+159. 20 cents. Water-Supply Paper 762: Surface Water Supply of the United States, 1934. Part 7: Lower Mississippi River Basin. Pp. v+129. 20 cents. Water-Supply Paper 769: Surface Water Supply of the United States, 1934. Part 12: North Pacific Slope Basins. C: Pacific Slope Basins in Oregon and Lower Columbia River Basin. Pp. vi+165. 20 cents. Water-Supply Paper 771: Floods in the United States: Magnitude and Frequency. By Clarence S. Jarvis and others. Pp. 497+3 plates. 1 dollar. Water-Supply Paper 772: Studies of Relations of Rainfall and Run-Off in the United States. By W. G. Hoyt and others. Pp. 301. 25 cents. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.) [273]

U.S. Department of Agriculture. Circular No. 376: New Equipment for obtaining Host Material for the Mass Production of *Trichogramma minutum*, an Egg Parasite of various Insect Pests. By Herbert Spencer, Luther Brown, Arthur M. Phillips. Pp. 18. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.) 5 cents. [303]

Bulletin of the Vanderbilt Marine Museum. Vol. 6: Scientific Results of the World Cruise of the Yacht *Alca*, 1931, William K. Vanderbilt Commanding. Crustacea: Anomura, Macrura, Euphausiacea, Isopoda, Amphipoda and Echinodermata: Asteroidea and Echinoidea. By Lee Boone. Pp. 264+96 plates. (Huntington, L.I., N.Y.: Vanderbilt Marine Museum.) [303]

Records of the Botanical Survey of India. Vol. 8, No. 6: Flora Arabica. By the Rev. E. Blatter. Part 5: Gnetaceae—Gramineae. Pp. ii+451-519+lix. (Delhi: Manager of Publications.) 2 rupees; 3s. 6d. [303]

British Honduras. Report of the Forest Trust for the Period 1st April 1933 to 31st December 1934. Pp. 21. (Belize: Forest Department.) [303]

Koninklijk Nederlandsch Meteorologisch Instituut. No. 106a: Ergebnisse Aerologischer Beobachtungen. 23, 1934. Pp. iv+42. 1.50 fl. No. 108: Seismische Registrierungen in De Bilt. 21, 1933. Pp. viii+49. 0.70 fl. (=Gravenhage: Rijksuitgeverij.) [303]

Canada: Department of Mines: National Museum of Canada. Bulletin No. 77 (Geological Series, No. 52): Hooded Hadrosaurs of the Belly River Series of the Upper Cretaceous, by C. M. Sternberg; Musculature and Functions in the Cretaceous, by L. S. Russell. Pp. ii+48+7 plates. 25 cents. Bulletin No. 78 (Anthropological Series, No. 17): The Ojibwa Indians of Parry Island, their Social and Religious Life. By Diamond Jenness. Pp. vi+115. 25 cents. (Ottawa: King's Printer.) [303]

Canada: Department of Mines: Bureau of Economic Geology: Geological Survey. Memoir 82: A Preliminary Contribution to the Floras of the Whitemud and Ravenscrag Formations. By E. W. Berry. (No. 2397.) Pp. ii+107 (20 plates). 25 cents. Memoir 184: Descriptions of Properties, Slocan Mining Camp, British Columbia. By C. E. Cairnes. (No. 2399.) Pp. v+274+2 plates. 75 cents. Memoir 185: Chibougamau Lake Map-area, Quebec. By J. B. Mawdsley and G. W. H. Norman. (No. 2409.) Pp. iv+95+5 plates. 25 cents. Memoir 186: Gold Deposits of Elbow—Morton Area, Manitoba. By C. H. Stockwell. (No. 2407.) Pp. ii+74. 25 cents. (Ottawa: King's Printer.) [303]

Dominion of Canada. Report of the Department of Mines for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 1935. (No. 2402.) Pp. iii+48. (Ottawa: King's Printer.) 25 cents. [303]

Canada: Department of Mines: Mines Branch. Investigations in Ore Dressing and Metallurgy (Testing and Research Laboratories), July to December 1934. (No. 748.) Pp. ii+202. (Ottawa: King's Printer.) [303]

Indian Forest Records (New Series). Vol. 1, No. 1: Shrinkage Studies on Indian Woods. 1: Effect of High Temperatures on the Shrinkage and Moisture Equilibrium of Wood. By Dr. S. N. Kapur and Azizul Rehman. Pp. iv+41. 1.8 rupees; 2s. 6d. Vol. 1, No. 12: Entomological Investigations on the Spike Disease of Sandal. (26) Coccidae (Homopt.). By N. C. Chatterjee and Dr. Rao Saheb T. V. Ramakrishna Ayyar. Pp. ii+233-242. 7 annas; 9d. (Delhi: Manager of Publications.) [303]

Carnegie Institution of Washington. Annual Report of the Director of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism. (Reprinted from Year Book No. 34.) Pp. 223-267. (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution.) [14]

National Geographic Society. Contributed Technical Papers, Pueblo Bonito Series, No. 1: Dating Pueblo Bonito and other Ruins of the Southwest. By A. E. Douglass. Pp. 74. (Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society.) [14]

Catalogues

Anahaemin B.D.H.: the Active Haematopoietic Principle of Ltd.) of Dakin and West. Pp. 14. (London: The British Drug Houses, Liver A Catalogue of Books published by the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press. Pp. xiv+337. (London: Cambridge University Press.)

A Catalogue of Books on Systematic Botany, Plant Biology, Cryptogamic Botany, including the Library of the late Prof. Otto Vernon Darbishire. (No. 518.) Pp. 40. (London: Bernard Quaritch, Ltd.)

Colloidal Graphite: a Unique Material of Particular Interest to Research Workers. Pp. 23. (London: E. G. Acheson, Ltd.)

Druggists, Surgical and Sundries List. Pp. 12. (Manchester 12: David Moseley and Sons, Ltd.)

British Industries House. Medical Section Annual, 1936. Pp. 104. (London: British Industries House.)

The Hilger Trichromatic Colorimeter. (Publication No. 240.) Pp. 6. (London: Adam Hilger, Ltd.)