

The Subject Index to Periodicals, 1935

Pp. xiii+235. (London: The Library Association, 1936.) 70s.

WITH this issue the "Subject Index to Periodicals" completes twenty years of existence, the first volume published being for the year 1915. The volume for 1935 appeared only five months after the close of the year covered. The general editor, Mr. T. Rowland Powel, his staff and the voluntary contributors are to be congratulated on the rapidity with which the work has been carried out. The Subject Index for 1935 comprises entries of about 26,000 articles selected from 590 periodicals. Of these periodicals 540 are English and American, 27 French and Belgian, 21 German, and 2 Italian. The articles selected are arranged under headings such as "Light", "Lighting", "Lightning", etc., but under each heading the order is that of authors' names.

The subjects selected for indexing are by no means confined to science, but cover a wide range. Verse and fiction are excluded. With few exceptions, no attempt has been made to index periodicals already indexed in the following: *Agricultural Index*, *Engineering Index*, *Engineering Abstracts*, *Index Medicus*, *Journal of the Society of Dyers and Colorists*, *Photographic Abstracts*, *Revue de Géologie*, *Royal Meteorological Society Bibliography*, *Science Abstracts*, *Textile Institute Journal*.

All workers in science value these Subject Indexes, and appreciate the care and efficiency which, under the auspices of the Library Association, have been devoted to their production. It is probable that many a valuable paper, published in a journal that is little read, is here introduced to a much larger world.

Pheretima (The Indian Earthworm)

By Prof. Karm Narayan Bahl. (The Indian Zoological Memoirs on Indian Animal Types, 1.) Second edition, revised and enlarged. Pp. x+85. (Lucknow: Lucknow Publishing House, 1936.) 1.8 rupees.

PROF. BAHL, the author of the memoir under notice, is also the general editor of this useful series. It is ten years since the first edition was published, and the relevant work done in the interval has been incorporated. The book has been thoroughly revised and to some extent rearranged. It is printed upon a more satisfactory paper, which does better justice to the illustrations. Five of the figures of the first edition have been omitted, nine new ones inserted and several have been redrawn, resulting in a distinct improvement. The brief account of the development has been omitted but an interesting new chapter on the receptor organs has been put in. The old chapter on habits and distribution has been rewritten and extended, and removed to near the end as "Bionomics, Distribution and Relationships".

The memoir was good when first issued and its usefulness is shown by the demand for a second edition. In its new form, where every chapter has been critically revised and added to, the illustrations improved, and the recent work included, it should be assured of a new lease of life.

C. H. O'D.

Geologie Südamerikas

Von Prof. Dr. H. Gerth. (Geologie der Erde, herausgegeben von Prof. Dr. Erich Krenkel.) Teil 2. Pp. vi+201-389+plates 18-30. (Berlin: Gebrüder Borntraeger, 1935.) 19.60 gold marks.

THE second part of Prof. Gerth's exceedingly useful treatise on the geology of South America deals with the geological history of the continent during Mesozoic times and summarizes, in a very concise manner, the rather scattered literature on the subject.

The method of treatment is similar to that employed so successfully by the author in vol. 1, and the regional discussion of each system or formation is followed by a short section dealing with the main events throughout the continent as a whole.

In contrast to the northern hemisphere, the Mesozoic era in the southern continent was a period of intense and widespread igneous activity which reached its maximum expression during the Trias but recurred locally during the Jurassic and Cretaceous. The author brings this igneous activity into line with the tectonic status of the continent and traces the development of the three great, independent zones of sedimentation from which the Tertiary orogenic zone developed.

The numerous correlation tables and abundant references to literature considerably increase the value of this excellent book, which must prove of interest and value to all geologists, and not merely to those directly concerned with the problems of South American geology.

Beiträge zur Herkunftsbestimmung bei Honig

Band 1: Pollengestaltung und Herkunftsbestimmung bei Blütenhonig; mit besonderer Berücksichtigung des Deutschen Trachtgebietes. Von Prof. Dr. Enoch Zander. Pp. 343+80 plates. (Berlin: Verlag der Reichsfachgruppe Imker E.V., 1935.) 18 gold marks.

HONEY contains large numbers of pollen grains of the blossoms visited by bees, and, consequently, a study of the pollen may yield considerable information as to the source of a honey sample—not only the flower-source, but perhaps also of the district or country of origin.

This volume contains an exhaustive account of the pollen forms that have been noted in German honey and also in occasional samples from other lands. Since the German and British floras have much in common, British students may find this work useful. Descriptions of the pollen of nearly six hundred species of plants belonging to 109 families are supplied, and pollen characters such as size, shape, number of pores and furrows are also marshalled in lists. Photographic illustrations of the pollen of nearly 350 species are also included in double-sided plates. These plates are disappointing. Each pollen form is generally shown twice, at magnifications of 160 and 450 times. For all but a small number of the larger pollen grains, the lower magnification is too low to give a picture of any value in a work of this kind, while even at the higher magnification details of diagnostic value are often obscure.