

highly organized, later evolved responses are perceived and executed by a unified consciousness and a single will? Of Horsley's activities in the political and sociological sphere he observes, "He clearly realized that what the world sorely needs is a deeper and wider recognition of the fact that selfishness and the aggressive spirit, although they no doubt had some survival value among primitive peoples and savage tribes, yet under modern conditions of so-called civilization they act as brakes on the wheels of human progress".

### School Natural History

PESSIMISTS who lament the alleged lack of interest shown by the modern schoolboy in natural history should read the current annual reports of two famous school natural history societies—the reports for 1938 of the Marlborough College Natural History Society and of the Rugby School Natural History Society. Each of these societies has existed long enough for its usefulness to be thoroughly tested, for the Marlborough report is the eighty-seventh, the Rugby one the seventy-second, and the internal evidence is that enthusiasm abounds and observations are made over a wide range of natural history subjects. The two societies seem to be run on quite different lines. At Rugby, activities centre in thirteen specialist sections, which arrange their own discussions and excursions, and meet in common only at the general lectures given by outside speakers. At Marlborough, there appear to be no lectures by outsiders, the members themselves are the lecturers, and there are but two sections, archaeological and natural science. This arrangement, while encouraging more general distribution of interests, has not affected the specialist labours of the members, for it is a remarkable record that from the pages of successive reports no fewer than seven hand-lists have been published, giving a wonderfully complete conspectus of the fauna and flora of the Marlborough district.

### The Science Library

THE first part of a fifth edition of the "Hand List of Short Titles of Current Periodicals in the Science Library" (H.M. Stationery Office. 9s. net) has recently been issued. The new edition contains about nine thousand main entries with about four thousand cross references from alternative headings, as against four thousand titles in the fourth edition, issued in 1926. Publications of learned societies and institutions are entered under the names of their permanent seats, and publications of Government departments and other bodies under the name of the countries from which they derive their denominations, or, for want of such denominations, under the places whence their acts are issued. The Hand List is not intended as a bibliographical catalogue; it gives merely brief titles of the publications with details of the Library holdings. The List is being issued in two parts, of which the first is arranged alphabetically. It is hoped later to publish a second part with a subject arrangement. The preface to the List gives a very brief but lucid description of the Science Library and its development.

### New Medical Journals

THE first numbers of two new scientific journals have been received. (1) *Anais da Faculdade de Medicina de Porto Alegre*, Universidade de Porto Alegre, Brazil, Fasc. 1, pp. 1–303. This is handsomely produced and well illustrated, and the papers, in Portuguese, Spanish, Italian, French, German or English, have summaries in French, German and/or English. It opens with an account of the medical centre of the University, and contains papers, among others, on detachment of the retina (Arruga), hereditary ophthalmic diseases (Meyer), and feminine types (Gomes). (2) *Anales de la Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Biologicas*, Mexico, vol. 1, No. 1, pp. 1–178. This also is well produced and illustrated, and contains articles in Spanish on the cultivation of *Rickettsia* of typhus fever (Siegfried), histology of the poison gland of a spider, *Crypsidromus* (Ancona), calcium chloride in the treatment of scorpion poisoning (Varela), a new species of *Phlebotomus* (Dampf) and some Mexican textile fibres (Huerta and Ancona) and others. Summaries in English and German are provided. In both journals, the printed matter on a page measures about 8 in. × 5 in.

### Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society

THE ninety-ninth volume of the *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England* has now been published (price 15s.). It includes, as in the previous volume, "The Farmer's Guide to Agricultural Research", which this year contains an additional section on pests and parasites. As usual, the subjects of the special articles cover a wide field of interest. Agricultural long-term credit facilities in Great Britain are discussed, and farm organization on the silt soils of Holland, Lincolnshire, described. A detailed account is also given of the life-history, distribution and control of bracken, from which there can be no doubt as to the need for urgency in undertaking means for its eradication. The starling is the subject of a further article, and at present it seems uncertain whether it should be regarded as a friend or enemy of the farmer. The Warnford Farm Estate, where pig breeding and bacon production are carried out on a vast scale, has been selected as this year's "Notable Farming Enterprise".

### Durban Museum and Art Gallery

UNDER the directorship of E. C. Chubb this combined institution continues to make steady progress, reflected in an increase of visitors, who in the year ending July 31, 1938, numbered 123,771. The educational value of the collections is increased by the lectures to the public and to school children delivered by the staff, and modern developments are shown in the appointment of a guide-lecturer, through the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the extended use of cinematograph films to illustrate museum lectures, and the scheme which enables assistants to visit other South African museums for the purpose of gaining experience in museum technique, a scheme sponsored by the South African Museums Association.