

archæology than can be obtained from any one of the well-known manuals.

After an explanatory preface and an introduction there is a chapter on the scope and significance of Sumerian mythology. This is followed by an account of the myths of origins, of Kur and the slaying of the dragon, of the deluge—antedating, of course, the well-known Neo-Babylonian epic—of the marriage of the god Martu, and of the preference of Inanna, sister of the sun-god Utu, for the farmer-god Enkimdu over the shepherd-god Dumuzi: a pretty story which ends with the seeming victory of Dumuzi over Enkimdu.

These Sumerian 'literary' tablets are some centuries older than the Neo-Babylonian epics, and borrowing by these can be detected. They are also about six hundred years older than the somewhat similar material which is turning up at Ras Shamra in northern Syria. Contact in Mesopotamia between the intrusive, matter-of-fact Sumerian folk of unknown racial affinity and their Semitic neighbours seems to have resulted in the development of epics, myths and proverbs which have proved a veritable mine into which later cultures have delved when they in turn set themselves to answer such problems as the origin of the world and man. It is to be hoped the subsequent volumes will appear without undue delay.

M. C. BURKITT.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, September 5

WOMEN'S ENGINEERING SOCIETY (MANCHESTER BRANCH) (at the Engineers' Club, Albert Square, Manchester), at 6.30 p.m.—Mr. E. T. Norris: "The Moving Coil Voltage Regulator".

Friday, September 8

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (at Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1), at 4.30 p.m.—Sir Harold Spencer Jones, F.R.S., and Mr. R. T. Cullen: "The Division Errors of the Reversible Transit Circle of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich"; Mr. C. S. Beals: "Some Results of a Spectrophotometric Study of the Wolf Rayet Binary HD 193570"; Mr. D. L. Edwards: "Periodic Changes in γ Cassiopeiæ during the past 100 Years".

APPOINTMENTS VACANT

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments on or before the dates mentioned:

UNIVERSITY READERSHIP IN PHYSICS tenable at King's College—The Academic Registrar, University of London, South Kensington, London, S.W.7 (September 6).

HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTION ENGINEERING—The Principal, Leicester College of Technology and Commerce, Leicester (September 9).

LECTURER IN CHEMISTRY—The Registrar, Technical College, Sunderland (September 9).

CHIEF ENGINEER by large firm of Locomotive Manufacturers—The Ministry of Labour and National Service, Room 432, Alexandra House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2 (quoting Reference No. C.2243.XA) (September 11).

SPEECH THERAPIST—The Director of Education, Education Offices, 15 John Street, Sunderland (September 15).

TECHNICAL EDITOR of the *Electrical Power Engineer* and DIRECTOR OF STUDIES of the Correspondence Tuition Scheme of the Association—The General Secretary, Electrical Power Engineers' Association, 102 St. George's Square, London, S.W.1 (endorsed 'Technical Editor') (September 15).

UNIVERSITY READERSHIP IN CHEMISTRY tenable at the Royal Cancer Hospital (Free)—The Academic Registrar, University of London, South Kensington, London, S.W.7 (September 18).

RESPONSIBLE LECTURER IN PHYSIOLOGY—The Principal, Chelsea Polytechnic, Manresa Road, London, S.W.3 (September 20).

CHAIR OF MINING—The Acting Registrar, The University, Leeds 2 (September 30).

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough—The Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Teddington, Middx. (October 9).

LECTURER IN PHILOSOPHY—The Very Rev. the Dean, Christ Church, Oxford (October 15).

DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES, University of Sydney—The Secretary, Universities Bureau of the British Empire, c/o University College, Gower Street, London, W.C.1 (Sydney, December 1).

SECOND VETERINARY OFFICER at the Imperial Bureau of Animal Health, Weybridge—The Secretary, Imperial Agricultural Bureaux, 2 Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, London, S.W.1.

ASSISTANT MASTER (temporary) qualified to teach ENGINEERING SUBJECTS and MATHEMATICS up to Ordinary National Certificate standard—The Principal, Technical Institute, Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent.

BOTANIST AND ORGANIC CHEMIST to the Nyasaland Research and Development Co., Ltd.—Dr. M. Nierenstein, 2 Rylestone Grove, Bristol 9.

REPORTS and other PUBLICATIONS

(not included in the monthly Books Supplement)

Great Britain and Ireland

Pitt Rivers Museum: University of Oxford. Occasional Papers on Technology, 1: The Manufacture of a Flint Arrow-head by Quartzite Hammer-stone. By Sir Francis H. S. Knowles. Pp. 38 (6 plates). 5s. Report of the Curator of the Pitt Rivers Museum (Department of Ethnology) for the Year ending 31 July 1943. Pp. 6. (Oxford: Pitt Rivers Museum.) [88]

Tory Reform Committee. Bulletin No. 5: What Shall We Use for Money? Pp. 16. (London: Tory Reform Committee.) [88]

A Scientific Policy for British Agriculture (particularly in relation to Nutrition). Pp. 16. (London: Parliamentary and Scientific Committee.) 9d. [108]

Ministry of Fuel and Power: Committee on the Efficient Use of Fuel. Fuel Efficiency Bulletin No. 32: Fuel Economy at Collieries, with particular reference to Compressed Air. Pp. 17. (London: Ministry of Fuel and Power.) [108]

Institution of Gas Engineers. Communication No. 269: The Gas Industry; some factors affecting Future Development. Pp. 56. (London: Institution of Gas Engineers.) [148]

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. Annual Report by the Curator of the Laboratory for the Year 1943. Pp. 12. (Edinburgh: Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.) [218]

The AsCW and other Bodies. Pp. 8. (London: Association of Scientific Workers.) 3d. [218]

British Rubber Producers' Research Association. Publication No. 49: Rubber, Polyisoprenes and Allied Compounds, Part 7: Action of Nitric Oxide Thereon. By G. F. Bloomfield and (in part) G. A. Jeffrey. Pp. 6. (London: British Rubber Producers' Research Association.) [218]

Other Countries

Smithsonian Institution: United States National Museum. Bulletin 185: Checklist of the Coleopterous Insects of Mexico, Central America, the West Indies and South America. Part 1. Compiled by Richard E. Blackwelder. Pp. xii+188. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.) 35 cents. [257]

Department of Transport, Air Services Branch: Meteorological Division. Meteorology of the Canadian Arctic. Pp. iv+85. (Ottawa: Department of Transport.) [257]

U.S. Department of Agriculture. Technical Bulletin No. 866: Nature and Extent of Mormon Cricket Damage to Crop and Range Plants. By Ralph B. Swain. Pp. 44. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.) [267]

Annals of the Carnegie Museum. Vol. 30, Art. 5: A New Terrestrial Vulture from the Upper Eocene Deposits of Wyoming. By Alexander Wetmore. Pp. 57-70. Vol. 30, Art. 6: Another New Boa of the Genus *Epicrates* from the Bahamas. By M. Graham Netting and Coleman J. Goin. Pp. 71-76. (Pittsburgh, Pa.: Carnegie Museum.) [267]

Smithsonian Institution: Bureau of American Ethnology. Bulletin 133: Stone Monuments of Southern Mexico. By Matthew W. Stirling. Pp. vii+84+62 plates. 35 cents. Bulletin 141: Ceramic Stratigraphy at Cerro de las Mesas, Veracruz, Mexico. By Philip Drucker. Pp. viii+95+58 plates. 50 cents. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.) [277]

Transactions of the American Philosophical Society. New Series, Vol. 33, Part 3: Infectious Anemias due to Bartonella and related Red Cell Parasites. By David Weinman. Pp. 241-350. (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society.) 1.25 dollars. [277]

Uganda Protectorate: Forest Department. Annual Report for the Year ending 31st December 1943. Pp. 8. (Entebbe: Government Printer.) 1s. [317]

Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences, Fourth Series. Vol. 25, No. 2: Relations of the Temperate Floras of North and South America. By Doughton Houghton Campbell. Pp. 139-146. Vol. 25, No. 3: *Pugillus astragalorum* Alter. By R. C. Barneby. Pp. 147-170+plate 17. Vol. 25, No. 4: Sublittoral Marine Algae of the Monterey Peninsula. By Prof. Gilbert M. Smith. Pp. 171-176. Vol. 25, No. 5: The Gander Oak, a New Hybrid Oak from San Diego County, California. By Carl B. Wolf. Pp. 177-188+plates 18-19. Vol. 25, No. 6: The Genus *Drymaria* in, and adjacent to, the Sonoran Desert. By Prof. Ira L. Wiggins. Pp. 189-214+plates 20-22. Vol. 25, No. 7: Water and Plant Anatomy. By Prof. George J. Peirce. Pp. 215-220. Vol. 25, No. 8: A Pleistocene Flora from the McKittrick Asphalt Deposits of California. By Prof. Herbert L. Mason. Pp. 221-234+plates 23-44. (San Francisco, Calif.: California Academy of Sciences.) [317]

Jamaica. Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for the Year ended 31st March 1943. Pp. 20. (Kingston: Government Printer.) [317]

Smithsonian Institution: United States National Museum. Contributions from the United States National Herbarium, Vol. 29, Part 1: Taxonomic Studies of Tropical American Plants. By C. V. Morton. Pp. xi+86. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.) 25 cents. [317]

U.S. Department of Agriculture. Circular No. 675: Control of the Mexican Bean Beetle in Irrigated Districts in the West. By R. L. Wallis. Pp. 12. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.) [317]