

The site is not far from Périgueux, and the cultures present are the late Magdalenian (mostly M6) and Azilian. The fauna indicates a very cold period during the Magdalenian occupation, succeeded by an unpleasant period of transition leading to a more temperate climate. The implements, both in flint and bone, are numerous and characteristic, and many of the bone tools are decorated. Human remains occur in each culture-level. A distribution map of Azilian finds in south-west France is given, and it would seem to rule out the theory that there was direct connexion between the Azilian of south-west France and the early Mesolithic cultures (Obanian, etc.) of Ireland and western Scotland, linked by a series of cultural sites now under the sea. Actually, Azilian sites are conspicuously absent from the coastal areas of south-west France. "La Grotte de Rochereil" is a worthy volume to add to the other *Mémoires* of the Institute of Human Palaeontology; it is well illustrated.

Research on Tinplate in Australia

THE Broken Hill Proprietary Company, the sole producer of tinplate in Australia, has made a grant of £6,000 per annum to support tinplate research in the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization. The grant will be used to support investigations at the Organization's Division of Food Preservation and Transport at Homebush, New South Wales; this is the main centre in Australia for research on tinplate packaging problems. One project to be undertaken will be a study of the reasons why certain foods sometimes cause intense corrosion or deep pitting of tinplate. Until 1957, when the Broken Hill Proprietary Company opened its new plant at Port Kembla, Australian supplies of tinplate were all imported; now, however, the Company supplies hot-dipped tinplate for the majority of the food cans manufactured in Australia, and it will be possible for research workers to trace the history of the plate right back to the steel ingot; this will be very useful in corrosion studies.

Physiological Role of Fast Transfer Reactions

To inquire into the possible physiological role of fast transfer reactions in eliciting specific interactions in ordered macromolecular structures, a series of seminar lectures was held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology during the spring term of 1960. Included were lectures on electron and energy transfer mechanisms and on current concepts of proton transport mechanisms of immediate biophysical and biochemical significance. Properties of water and ice crucial for proton transfer were reviewed. Six lectures of a more general nature dealt with aspects of macromolecular interaction properties. Abstracts of these lectures and pertinent references are available free of charge. Requests should be sent to Prof. Francis O. Schmitt, Department of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge 39, Mass.

Foundation of Plant Geography

STUDENTS of the history of botany will note with interest and appreciation the production of a facsimile edition of the essay by Alexander von Humboldt and A. Bonpland on the "Géographie des Plantes", dated Paris 1805, but believed not to have been issued until two years later. This work, the original of which is not readily accessible, has been

issued by the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History, as Sherborn Fund Facsimile, No. 1 (c/o British Museum (Natural History), London, S.W.7; price 10s.). Humboldt is generally regarded as the founder of modern plant geography, and here, in the boldly printed pages of his "Essai", some of his original comprehensive observations and ideas are set out.

Society for Applied Bacteriology: Officers

At the annual meeting of the Society for Applied Bacteriology, the following officers were elected: *Hon. President*, Mr. G. Sykes; *Hon. Secretary*, Dr. Ella M. Barnes; *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. G. Elis Jones; *Hon. Editors*, Dr. S. E. Jacobs and Dr. D. J. Jayne-Williams; *Hon. Publications Manager*, Mr. A. H. Walters; *Hon. Advertising Manager*, Mr. E. J. Mann; *Members of Committee*, Dr. Eve Billing, Mr. N. J. Butler, Mr. B. M. Gibbs, Dr. N. D. Harris, Dr. J. R. Norris, Dr. Jane Meiklejohn, Dr. A. M. Paton, Dr. Joan Taylor, Dr. G. C. Ware; (*ex-officio*), Dr. C. A. E. Briggs, Mr. D. A. McKenzie.

The Animal Health Trust: Educational Awards

THE following Animal Health Trust educational awards for 1960-61 have been announced: *Wellcome Fellowships*: R. B. Taylor (University of Liverpool), to undertake research into tolerance and the development of immunity in animals at the Department of Zoology, Cambridge; I. J. F. Stobo (University of Edinburgh), to study problems of the early weaned calf, with particular reference to nutrition and the development of the digestive organs, at the National Institute for Research in Dairying, Shinfield, Reading. *Research Training Scholarships*: R.A.S.E. Research Training Scholarship to R. M. Connan, of the Royal Veterinary College, to study general pathology at the Department of Animal Pathology, Cambridge; A. D. Allen Memorial Scholarship to G. W. Osbaldiston, of the University of Queensland, to study animal nutrition and general husbandry at Cambridge; Dr. W. N. M. Foster, of the University of Edinburgh, to undertake research into the problem of 'quidding' in Border Leicester sheep and to complete his veterinary degree at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Edinburgh; R. M. Griffin, of the Federal Department of Veterinary Research, Northern Nigeria, to continue investigations into contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and to attend the course for the diploma of bacteriology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; I. F. H. Purchase, of the University of Pretoria, for work in the field of animal anaesthesia at Cambridge.

University News:

London

MR. G. BELYAVIN, senior lecturer at University College Hospital Medical School, has been appointed to the University chair of bacteriology tenable at that School.

Mr. E. J. Ambrose, senior lecturer at the Institute of Cancer Research: Royal Cancer Hospital, has been appointed to the University readership in physical chemistry tenable at that Institute. Dr. F. A. Holton, a member of the scientific staff of the Experimental Radiopathology Research Unit of the Medical Research Council at Hammersmith Hospital, has been appointed to the University readership in veterinary biochemistry tenable at the Royal Veterinary College.