

Geologisk Tidsskrift, Feldspar Volume, 42 (2). Pp. 660. Fr. Bagges Kgl. Hofbogtrykkeri, Copenhagen, 1963. Price 60s.). It contains 40 contributions relating to the structures and properties of feldspars and to the application of these data in the study of natural rocks. There is an introduction by the late Dr. Paul Rosbaud, by whose untimely death on January 28, 1963, "many contributors to this volume have lost a dear and admired friend" and to whom the work thus becomes a singularly fitting memorial (see also *Nature*, 197, 1051; 1963).

Centrifugal Liquid Nitrogen Pump

ENGINEERS at Dounreay, in collaboration with D. A. Gunn (Engineering), Ltd., have developed a centrifugal pump which can handle liquid nitrogen or oxygen at about 500 gal/h for long periods. Previously available pumps had short lives mainly because they could not cope with the highly abrasive ice which is present in these liquefied gases. The new pump was developed to overcome this limitation and one veteran is still running well even after 3,500 h of continuous operation. The pump, manufactured mainly of stainless steel, uses bearings and a rotor of unusual design made of a polytetrafluoroethylene base material. It is submersible and is lubricated by the liquefied gas. A long driving-shaft and thermal barriers reduce unwanted heat-transfer between the motor and the pump. The rotor material does not need lubrication, and is compatible with most acids and alkalis over a wide range of temperature. Hence, in addition to the low-temperature application for which it was designed, the pump should be valuable in applications where greases and oils must not be used. The length of the driving shaft also brings advantages, since it isolates the motor from splashes, thus protecting it from corrosion. The pump is the subject of a recent patent application by the U.K. Atomic Energy Authority and will be manufactured under licence by D. A. Gunn (Engineering), Ltd., Clydesdale Works, Park Road North, Acton, London, W.3.

Use of Radioactive Materials

AN explanatory memorandum relating to the Radioactive Substances Act, 1960, has been published for the guidance of persons who keep or use radioactive materials (Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Scottish Development Department; Ministry of Health and Local Government, Northern Ireland. *Radioactive Substances Act 1960: an Explanatory Memorandum for Persons Keeping or Using Radioactive Materials*. Pp. 26. London: H.M.S.O., 1963. 1s. 6d. net). Part 1 describes briefly the principal provisions of the Act and the procedures to be followed under the Act, and Part 2 gives advice on methods of disposing of radioactive wastes. The Act comes into force on December 1, 1963. The primary purpose of the Act is stated to be to ensure effective control over radioactive wastes. Other matters, such as the protection of persons working with radioactive materials, or the carriage of radioactive materials, are dealt with under regulations made under other legislation.

Education and Training of the Mentally Subnormal Child

AN illustrated booklet by H. C. Gunzburg, issued by the National Association for Mental Health, outlines the principles which should govern the education and training of mentally subnormal and severely subnormal children in Junior Training Centres and Hospitals, many of whom can be prepared to live and work in the community when grown up (*Mental Subnormality Series*. No. 2: *Junior Training Centres—an Outline of the Principles and Practices of Social Education and Training of the Mentally Subnormal Child*. Pp. 20. London: National Association for Mental Health, 1963. 3s. 6d.). Besides a diagram indicating the existing provision for children and young

people below normal intelligence, the booklet includes a useful list of books on mental subnormality, and it should prove most useful to parents as well as to workers in this field.

Worm Parasites of Dogs and Cats in Thailand

ZACARIAS DE JESUS, South East Asia Treaty Organization professor of veterinary medicine, Kasetsart University, Thailand, has written a booklet, based on materials from animals in Bangkok, entitled *Dog's and Cat's Worm Parasites Transmissible to Man and other Prevalent Species* (Pp. 38 + 5 plates. Bangkok: Harry L. Frederick at the Post Publishing Co., Ltd., 1962). This is a useful account from a survey in this part of Asia. It forms the third part of a project on parasites of domesticated animals in Thailand.

Illegal Trade in Orang-Utans

THE Fauna Preservation Society has indicated its deep concern about the illegal export of young orang-utans from Sumatra and Borneo. The apes are usually smuggled into transit ports by poachers who shoot the mother animals in order to obtain the young. As only one out of every two baby orangs captured usually manages to survive transportation to a zoo, the total world population of these animals (at present estimated at between three and four thousand) is declining rapidly. Many of the orangs were smuggled into Singapore and re-exported via a clearing house in Bangkok, which has been located and closed down by the vigorous efforts of Dr. Boon Song Lekagul of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. It transpired that the Singapore ring of dealers had had some 85 animals on their hands for some time. Their position had been made more difficult by the recent action of the local customs authorities, who refused permits for export unless import licences could be shown. The old trick of exporting young orangs among batches of monkeys was too well known to be practicable. Unfortunately, it has now been learnt that a new clearing centre for smuggled orangs has been established at an unspecified port in Japan. It is to be hoped that steps will be taken to ferret out this centre and annihilate it. In conjunction with the World Wildlife Fund and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the Fauna Preservation Society is now in correspondence with Mr. Tom Harrisson, the curator of the Sarawak Museum, and authorities in Singapore in a determined effort to re-establish the 'orphaned' orangs in sanctuaries.

The Linnean Society of London

At the anniversary meeting of the Linnean Society of London, held on May 24, the following were elected officers for the session 1963-64: *President*, Prof. T. M. Harris; *Treasurer*, The Earl of Cranbrook; *Secretaries*, Prof. C. T. Ingold (botany) and Dr. H. G. Vevers (zoology); *Editorial Secretary*, Dr. J. Smart; *Vice-Presidents*, The Earl of Cranbrook, Mr. P. R. Bell, Mr. J. B. Gillett and Dr. E. I. White. *New Members of Council* elected: Dr. K. L. Alvin, Mr. P. S. B. Digby, Prof. H. R. Hewer, Mr. R. W. J. Keay and Mr. R. Ross. The following awards were made: *Linnean Gold Medals*, Dr. Sidnie M. Manton and Prof. W. H. Pearsall; *The H. H. Bloomer Award*, Mr. J. E. Lousley. *Foreign Members* elected were: Prof. P. P. Grassé, Prof. C. H. Lindroth and Prof. C. D. Michener. Mr. R. W. Hayman was elected *associate honoris causa*.

The Lady Tata Memorial Trust

THE Trustees of the Lady Tata Memorial Trust for research in leukæmia and allied diseases, on the recommendation of the (European) Scientific Advisory Committee, have made the following International Awards for the Academic Year 1963-64: *Fellowship*, Dr. J. de Maeyer-Guignard, Department of Virology, University of Louvain.