

the metallic borates, by M. L. Oivrad. Since the only definite borate of the composition B(OR)₃ is the magnesium borate of Ebelmann, attempts were made to prepare other borates of a similar constitution. Cadmium borate, Cd₃(BO₃)₂, can be prepared in a pure state by heating together in a platinum crucible potassium and hydrogen fluoride, KHF₂, with boric anhydride, and then adding cadmium oxide.—On a new method for determining aluminium, by M. Alfred Stock. The method proposed depends upon the setting free of iodine and precipitation of alumina from its salts by a mixture of potassium iodide and iodate. The reaction is not complete unless some sodium thiosulphate is added, and the solution heated. The aluminium hydrate thus thrown out is in a much denser form than when precipitated by ammonia, and is easily washed and dried.—On the fauna of the Auvergne, by MM. C. Bruyant and A. Fusbélio.—On the seminal teguments of some species of the genus *Impatiens*, by M. Camille Brunotte.—On the geology of Southern China, by M. Leclère. The geological expedition to Southern China occupied from December 1897 to July 1899, and resulted in filling up the gap in the geology of the country between Indo-China and Central Asia.—On some fossil plants of Southern China, by M. R. Zeiller. A study of the carboniferous fossils collected by M. Leclère in the expedition mentioned in the previous paper.—On the structure of the southern portion of the zone of the Briançonnais, by M. W. Kilian. On a new Miocene rodent, by M. Cl. Goillard. The new rodent, which was found in the Miocene strata of Grive-Saint-Alban, on account of its peculiar dentition cannot be regarded as belonging to any known genus. The molars have some resemblance to those *Brachyromys Betsileonensis*, now existing in Madagascar, and recall also the dentition of the living species *Tachyoryctes annectens* and *Rhizomys vestitus*. The name proposed for the fossil is *Anomalomys Gaudryi*.—On a crystallised fibrin, by M. L. Maillard. Although admitting the accuracy of the observations of M. Dzierzowski as to the existence of crystals of calcium palmitate in the deposit from sterile serum, the author still is of opinion that there is also a quasi-crystalline albuminoid material present.—The increase of yeasts, without fermentation, in the presence of a limited quantity of air, by M. A. Rosenstiehl. In the experiments described, the reproduction of the yeast without fermentation would appear to be caused by the presence of tannin, or of some similar substance capable of being coagulated by gelatine.—On the nature of the propagation of a nervous influx, by M. G. Weiss. The experiments made by the author upon the effect of temperature upon the velocity of a nerve impulse are not in agreement with those of Helmholtz, since the velocity would appear to be independent of the temperature, and hence is not so intimately related to a chemical change as is muscular contraction.—New method for measuring the thermal sensibility, by MM. Ed. Toulouse and W. Vaschide. To eliminate the disturbing effects of contact sensations the authors use drops of water heated to known temperatures, and weighing only 0.1 gram, which are allowed to fall on to the skin from a height of 1 cm.—Action of a continuous current upon the respiration of muscle, by M. Th. Guilloz. On the solar halo of January 11, 1900, by M. l'Abbé Maze.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1.
 ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—A Case of Monochromatic Vision: Sir W. Abney, F.R.S.—Thermal Radiation in Absolute Measure: Dr. Bottomley, F.R.S., and Dr. Beattie.—Electrical Conductivity in Gases traversed by Cathode Rays: Dr. McLennan.—Researches on Modern Explosives: W. Macnab and A. Ristori.—On the Influence of the Temperature of Liquid Air on Bacteria: Dr. A. Macfadyen.
 ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Senses of Primitive Man: Dr. W. H. R. Rivers.
 LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—On Botanic Nomenclature: C. B. Clarke, F.R.S.—On the Zoological Results of an Expedition to Mount Roraima, in British Guiana, undertaken by Messrs. F. V. McConnell and J. J. Quelch: Prof. E. Ray Lankester, F.R.S.
 CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—The Chlorine Derivatives of Pyridine. Part V. Synthesis of $\alpha\alpha'$ -Dichloropyridine. Constitution of Citrazinic Acid: W. J. Sell and F. W. Dootson.—The Formation of Heterocyclic Compounds: S. Ruhemann and H. E. Stapleton.—The Space Configuration of Quadrivalent Sulphur Derivatives: Methyl Ethyl Thetine Dextro-camporphorsulphonate, and Dextrobromocamporphorsulphonate: W. J. Pope and S. J. Peachey.—Nitrocamphane: M. O. Forster.
 RÖNTGEN SOCIETY, at 8.—Röntgen Rays in Diseases of the Chest: Dr. Hugh Walsham.—Mr. A. Hastings Stewart will show a small Egyptian Mummy and Skiagrams of the same.
 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2.
 ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Wireless Telegraphy: G. Marconi.
 GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, at 7.30.—The President, J. J. H. Teall, F.R.S., will deliver an Address on the Natural History of Phosphatic Deposits.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5.
 SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—The Nature and Yield of Metalliferous Deposits: Bennett H. Brough.
 ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—A Fragment of the Geography of England: South-West Sussex: Dr. H. R. Mill.
 SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, at 8.—On Recent Objections urged against the Adoption of the Metric System: Dr. W. S. Squire.—Oil of *Carthamus Tinctorius* (Safflower Oil): H. R. Le Sueur.
 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6.
 ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Structure and Classification of Fishes: Prof. E. Ray Lankester, F.R.S.
 ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Notes on the Transformations of some South African Lepidoptera: Colonel J. M. Fawcett.—On Mammals obtained in South-Western Arabia by Messrs. Percival and Dodson: Oldfield Thomas.—On a Small Collection of Decapod Crustaceans from Freshwaters in North Borneo: L. A. Borradaile.
 INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Moving Loads on Railway Underbridges: W. B. Farr.—Note on the Floor System of Girder Bridges: C. F. Findlay.
 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7.
 GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Fala Lake and the River System of North Wales: Philip Lake.—Foraminifera from an Upper Cambrian Horizon in the Malverns: Frederick Chapman.
 SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS, at 8.—Note on the Separation of Oleic Acid from other Fatty Acids: Dr. J. Lewkowitsch.—Analysis of a Sample of "Treacle" and of a Sample of So-called "Golden Syrup": C. G. Matthews and A. Hyde Parker.—The Determination of Carbon and Sulphur in Steel: Bertram Blount.—Note on Sour Milk: H. Droop Richmon and J. B. P. Harrison.—Butters from various Countries compared: C. Estcourt.
 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8.
 ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—*Probable Papers*: The Spectrum of α -Aquilaz: Sir N. Lockyer, K.C.B., F.R.S., and A. Fowler. On Electrical Effects due to Evaporation of Sodium in Air and other Gases: W. C. Henderson.
 ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Modern Astronomy: Prof. H. H. Turner, F.R.S.
 CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Victor Meyer Memorial Lecture: Prof. T. E. Thorpe, F.R.S.
 SOCIETY OF ARTS (Imperial Institute), at 4.30.—The Projects of Railway Communication with India: J. M. Maclean.
 MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—A Formula in the Theory of the Theta-Functions: Prof. A. C. Dixon.—Some Elementary Distributions of Stress in Three Dimensions: J. H. Michell.
 INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Standardisation of Electrical Engineering Plant: R. P. Sellon.
 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9.
 ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Symbiosis and Symbiotic Fermentation: Prof. J. Reynolds Green.
 ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 3.—Anniversary Meeting.
 PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—Annual General Meeting.—Address by the President, Prof. O. J. Lodge, F.R.S.
 INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Underground Sources of Water-Supply: D. E. Lloyd-Davies.

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