

sums" now being spent upon the roads of Wisconsin. For the years 1907-1911 the appropriation by the State for highway purposes was 2000l. per annum, in 1912 it was 80,000l., in 1913 170,000l., in 1914 it had risen to 246,000l., and these figures represent less than one-third of the total amount spent on State-aided roads in the corresponding years. It must be remembered, however, that ten years ago there were practically no stone roads beyond the town boundaries.

The scheme of the report is excellent: part i. is a short introduction to the characters of the available road stones and to the methods of testing; part ii. deals with limestone, which appears to be the most convenient stone for use on the roads. The quarries in each county are described separately, and county maps show the distribution of the stone and quarries. Tests for each quarry were made by the Office of Public Roads (U.S. Department of Agriculture), part of the cost of which was borne by the State Highway Commission. The report of necessity possesses more local than general interest, yet it might well be taken as a model by the Geological Survey of Great Britain, which mentions quarries in a casual way in its memoirs, but has not yet produced one in which all the facts relating to a single important branch of the quarry industry are readily accessible.

Staffordshire. By W. B. Smith. Pp. xi+155. (Cambridge: At the University Press, 1915.) Price 1s. 6d. net.

IN dealing with a county which includes two great manufacturing areas, an author might have been pardoned for giving an emphasis to the industrial character of Staffordshire, and for dwelling at length on the conditions which make Staffordshire the third county in industrial importance. Mr. Smith, however, has wisely balanced the more prosaic and unlovely areas against the beauty spots, such as Dovedale and the Moorlands, and the grimy factories against the fairer farms and the charming parks. The reader is introduced to dales comparatively unknown outside the county, to isolated items of interest such as the wild goats in Bagot's Park, and the Horn Dancers of Abbots Bromley. Those who have some acquaintance with Staffordshire will find much that is new in this book, which maintains the high standard of the series.

Catalogue of the Books, Manuscripts, Maps, and Drawings in the British Museum (Natural History). Vol. v., SO—Z. Pp. 446. (London: Printed by Order of the Trustees of the British Museum, 1915.) Price 20s.

THIS volume of the catalogue of the collection of books, maps, and drawings in the Natural History branch of the British Museum brings the series of entries under the authors' names down to the end of the alphabet. The plan of the catalogue is that of the previous volumes, and was described when these were noticed in these columns.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

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Palæolithic Man in South Africa.

IN November of 1913 Mr. J. L. Groenewald, a farmer, of Adelaide, C.P., showed me some pieces of fossil bones, explaining that he had obtained them from a friend's farm at Boskop, in the Transvaal. He wanted my opinion as to whether they were human or not. I pronounced them to be portions of a human skull-cap of some very ancient race, and prevailed upon him to give them to me. A subsequent examination, after the parts had been fitted together and measured, made it clear that it was of a race as



Front view of the two skull-caps. (1) Neanderthal; (2) Boskop.



Back view of the two skull-caps. (1) Boskop; (2) Neanderthal.



Side view of the Boskop skull-cap, in comparison with the typical Neanderthal skull-cap. (1) Boskop skull-cap; (2) Neanderthal skull-cap. The forehead parts face outwards.

ancient, or more so, than the Neanderthal or the La Chapelle man. It bears a close resemblance in shape, thickness, and measurements to the former. The skull is as completely fossilised as the Karoo fossil reptiles. That it is of vast antiquity is certain.

This Boskop man differs from the typical Neanderthal type in having a lesser development of the