

corresponds to the essence of art, the complete fusion in it of something that corresponds to mind and something that corresponds to material. . . . It is itself uncreated, but is merely there. In it as in a matrix are formed the finite things which are said to be created. . . . There is no creator of it except itself; but it is the creator of all finites that come into being within it. . . . God, therefore, though not the creator of the Universe, is, so far as He is identical with the universe, creator of all the things within it." J. C. H.

Electrical Engineering Economics: a Study of the Economic Use and Supply of Electricity. By D. J. Bolton. Pp. xi + 305. (London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1928.) 21s. net.

THE study of economics is of great importance to everyone. We should all know something about capital and interest, and sinking funds and depreciation. The question is whether we should be taught this at school or at college, or whether we should pick it up in our everyday work. We have heard an eminent engineer wax indignant because he had met a university graduate who did not quite understand what crossing a cheque meant. Another complained that few, if any, technical graduates knew at what stage in the transaction a purchase was completed. In questioning a young salesman on this point, he replied that he had bought a 'business' dictionary to which he referred when in doubt.

The questions Mr. Bolton discusses, however, are not connected with law, except in so far as legal enactments limit methods of production or supply. It seems to us that the questions discussed are mainly concerned with finding out under what conditions we can supply most economically. Many of them are simply problems in finding maximum and minimum values, the solutions to which are sometimes difficult to find. Kelvin's problem, for example, which gives a method of finding the most economical size of conductor to use in supply, is given, and its limitations are explained.

These and many similar problems can often be solved, approximately at least, by graphical methods, and some of these methods are of practical use. We are not convinced, however, that it is necessary to make a special department of 'electrical engineering economics.' There is such an infinite variety of conditions of supply that it is impossible to comprise the solutions to all the problems that arise by means of formulæ.

Coloured Plates of the Birds of Ceylon. By G. M. Henry. With a short Description of each Bird by W. E. Wait. Part 1. Pp. v + 16 + 16 plates. (Colombo: Colombo Museum; London: Dulau and Co., Ltd., 1927.) 30s.

IN 1925 Mr. W. E. Wait brought out a most excellent handbook of the birds of Ceylon, illustrated with a few black-and-white plates. At the time it was felt that the value of this book would have been greatly enhanced had it been possible to bring

out a certain number of coloured plates to illustrate it, but this was unfortunately a financial impossibility. It was fully realised, however, by the authorities of the Colombo Museum and the author himself that such illustrations were most desirable, and in 1926 the generous help of Dr. Casey Wood made the publication of these plates possible. The painting of the plates has been entrusted to Mr. G. M. Henry, whilst Mr. Wait has supplied a brief précis from his manual as letterpress to each plate. The present part contains sixteen plates, and it is intended to complete the work in four parts, after which it is possible that a further volume may be published.

Taking them as a whole, the plates are excellent. The attitudes of the birds are life-like and vigorous, showing that the painter is well acquainted with their life-history as well as with their museum skins. Whilst the artist is not equally happy in all his efforts—as, for example, in the plates of the Brown-capped Babbler and the Black-capped Bulbul—we think he has been exceptionally successful in his beautiful plate of the Spotted-winged Thrush and Palliser's Warbler. We look forward to the second part of this publication with great pleasure, and if the work is maintained at the present standard, it will undoubtedly be a great addition to the zoological literature of Ceylon and a worthy successor to Legge's great work.

Geheilte Knochenbrüche bei wildlebenden und in Gefangenschaft gehaltenen Tieren. Von Prof. Dr. E. Korschelt und Dr. Hermann Stock. Pp. iv + 176. (Berlin: Gebrüder Borntraeger, 1928.) 24 gold marks.

THE healing of fractured bones in wild animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians) reveals the astounding adaptability of the natural forces of repair and the extent to which widely separated fragments can be joined up under natural conditions without the surgeon's assistance. The book is illustrated by numerous photographs and radiographs. In the bibliography of fifty-eight titles, fifty-six are German and none of them British, although, from the time of John Hunter, British anatomists and surgeons have taken special interest in this subject.

Aus dem Leben der Bienen. Von Prof. Dr. K. v. Frisch. (Verständliche Wissenschaft, Band 1.) Pp. x + 149. (Berlin: Julius Springer, 1927.) 4·20 gold marks.

THIS excellent and attractively produced little volume stands out in refreshing contrast with most elementary books on bee life, since it is the product of the author's original researches. Dr. K. v. Frisch is well known as an expert experimenter through his observations on colour sense, methods of recognition, feeding responses, and other features of the sense physiology of the bee. The book is to a large extent a summary of these researches, and we commend it to all interested not only in bee life, but also in general animal behaviour.