

resting ground of such migrants furnished 40,003 hawks, or 55 per cent of the total kill during that period, and a single hawk-hunter was rewarded in 1930 to the tune of 900 dollars. It was against much opposition that Mr. E. Le Compte, the State game warden, finally succeeded in inducing the legislature to withdraw the bounty.

#### A Capsid Bug New in Britain

IN the *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* for August 1932 Mr. W. P. China, of the British Museum (Natural History), discusses the occurrence of large numbers of a very small capsid on apple trees in a nursery near Chertsey, Surrey. The species *Campylomma nicolasi* Put. and Reut. is an inhabitant of the Mediterranean region and its appearance in Surrey in large numbers is of special interest. The genus *Campylomma* contains ten palæartic species but none has previously been found in Britain. It seems unlikely that the species *C. nicolasi* is an indigenous insect, since it could scarcely have been overlooked in so well-worked a county as Surrey. Mr. China is of opinion that it is more likely to have been introduced with some Mediterranean plant, since the eggs of the family Capsidæ are almost invariably inserted into plant tissues. Whether a southern insect of this kind will survive the English climate seems questionable: the description and figure given by him will enable it to be identified should it be found again in subsequent years.

#### South London Entomological and Natural History Society

THE *Proceedings of the South London Entomological and Natural History Society* for 1931-32 forms the record of its sixteenth year of existence and contains several articles of interest to students of insects. Mention may be made of the contribution of Mr. A. E. Tonge, dealing with the characters of the eggs of British noctuid moths. The eggs of a large number of the species have been examined by him and briefly described and a proportion of them figured in four excellent photographic plates. Dr. E. A. Cockayne describes the larva of *Dysstroma concinnata*, and Mr. C. N. Hawkins discusses the pupæ in that genus. Among other articles, Mrs. K. Grant's account of aquatic Hymenoptera and Mr H. J. Turner's discussion on the classification of the British plume moths are also noteworthy. The volume is well produced and fully indexed, and may be obtained at the Society's rooms in Hibernia Chambers, London Bridge, S.E., price 12s. 6d.

#### Congress of Polish Physicists

THE sixth Congress of Polish Physicists was held in Warsaw on September 29-October 1, under the presidency of Prof. Ladislas Natanson, professor in the Jagellonian University, Cracow. The president, in his introductory address, spoke on "James Clerk Maxwell's Childhood and Boyhood". The principal subjects chosen for discussion included: the fortunes and misfortunes of physical theories, the polarisation of dielectrics, the physical interpretation of quantum mechanics, problems of nuclear physics, the con-

noction of physical science with engineering, general relativity, theory of band spectra, teaching of physics, etc., the chief contributors being Profs. Rubinowicz, Zakrzewski, Bialobrzewski, Wertenstein, Wolfke, Weyssonhoff, Patkowski, and others. Prof. Malarski, of Lwow (Leopol), dealt with "Maryan Smoluchowski's Life and Work". More than 120 miscellaneous papers were also presented. The Congress was decidedly successful, about three hundred members taking part in the proceedings. The next Congress will be held in Cracow in 1934.

#### Engineers' German Circle

THE Engineers' German Circle (Deutscher Ingenieurzirkel in London) was formed in 1931, with the joint support of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, London, and of the Verein deutscher Ingenieure, Berlin, to further the study of technical German, to give opportunities of hearing lectures in German by eminent German-speaking technical men, and to bring together engineers interested in Continental technical developments. Meetings are held at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers about once every four weeks during the sessions, on Mondays at 6 P.M. Members meet for tea and social intercourse from 5.15 P.M. Lectures are, so far as possible, illustrated with lantern slides, in order to help members to understand better the technical terms involved; and as a rule, they last about forty minutes, which allows time for a short discussion in German to follow. The lecturers are asked to use simple language and to speak slowly for the benefit of those not very familiar with German. The present session opened on Oct. 10. The subscription to the Circle is 5s. a year, and the Secretary is Mr. H. P. Spratt, Science Museum, London, S.W.7.

#### Researches in Wood Preservation

IN addition to some useful notes on timber-treating plants in the British Isles, and on the preservation of timber investigations being carried out at research institutes and forest products laboratories, vol. 2 of the *Journal of the British Wood Preserving Association* includes some interesting papers read before meetings of the Association during the year, accompanied by valuable discussions both from the point of view of the expert and the practical commercial man. Amongst these are "The Structure of Wood", by L. Chalk; "Recent Developments in Wood Preservation", by H. Fergusson; and a general discussion on the fire-proofing of timber. Other interesting material was afforded by the papers on "The Preservation of Mining Timber on the Witwatersrand", by H. A. Read; "Experiments on Wood Preservation in the Sea", by J. H. Orton; and "Wood Structure and Penetration of Preservatives", by F. J. Popham. In an editorial note it is stated that the steady growth of the Association continues. The exhibits at agricultural shows and the lectures given by the Secretary to the various clubs and scientific associations in many parts of the country bring the merits of scientific wood preservation before a large public. Inquiries from abroad have increased, particularly from the Colonies,