

the details of the equipment, their usual defects, accidents, shortcomings, and methods of remedy, as well as of their every-day management. It is an admirable bit of very useful book-making, and its notice in this place is entirely justified by its scientific character and completeness, as well as by its intrinsic value in its place and for its purpose.

R. H. T.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS.

THE *American Naturalist* for October opens with an article by Mr. John Murdoch, describing the relation between the Eskimos of Port Barrow, northwestern Alaska, and the animals of their country. Mr. G. W. Field's article on methods of planktology describing work carried out in The Rhode Island Experiment Station is reprinted from the Report of the Station. Mr. C. R. Eastman discusses some new points in Dinichthyid Osteology, and Professor Comstock and Dr. Needham continue their treatise on the wings of insects. There is a note on the variation of the teleutospores of *Puccinia windsorizæ*, by Mr. J. A. Warren, and editorially the plans for a marine biological station in Canada are discussed. Thirty-four pages are devoted to reviews of literature and scientific news.

Terrestrial Magnetism for September is almost entirely devoted to the recent International Conference on Terrestrial Magnetism and Atmospheric Electricity, reported in a recent issue of SCIENCE. A full account of the proceedings of the Conference is given, likewise the words of welcome addressed to those attending it by the President of Section A, Professor W. E. Ayrton, and the opening address of the President of the Conference, Professor A. W. Rücker. The following papers presented to the Conference are printed in full:

Establishment of Temporary Magnetic Observatories: W. von Bezold and M. Rykatschew.

Relative Advantages of Long and Short Magnets: E. Mascart.

Questions to be addressed to Magnetic Observatories: M. Eschenhagen.

Systematische Erforschung der Saecular Variation: A Schmidt (Gotha).

Magnetic Observations in the Azores: Albert, Prince of Monaco.

Mouvement diurne du pôle nord d'un barreau magnétique: J. B. Capello.

Expression of the Earth's Magnetic Potential: A. Schuster.

Earth Currents, Atmospheric Currents and Magnetic Perturbations: S. Lemström.

Interpretation of Earth Current Observations: A. Schuster.

Magnetic and Electrolytic Actions of Electric Railways.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON,

OCTOBER 20, 1898.

UNDER the head of short notes and exhibition of specimens Mr. Pratt exhibited a specimen of *Phyciodes tharos* which had been taken at electric light at night. Mr. Schwarz showed a dry flower stem of the bear-grass showing the work of the Buprestid beetle *Thrinopyge ambiens* Lec., the single stem indicating the entire life history of the beetle, which works in the center and does not appreciably injure the plant. Some discussion followed upon the bear-grass and the allied Yuccas and Dasylirions of the arid region, more particularly in regard to the destruction of flower pod by cattle in spite of the especially protective growth. Mr. Heidemann showed three species of Aradidae new to the District of Columbia, viz., *Aradus crenatus* Say, *A. breviatus* Bergr. and *A. inornatus* Stål., with comments upon their habits and characters. He also showed specimens of *Calisius pallipes* Stål., from Florida, a species hitherto known only from South America and which must now be added to the fauna of boreal America. Mr. Ashmead remarked that he had found this last species under the bark of dead orange trees killed by frost. Mr. Howard called attention to an outbreak of the chinchbug upon the lawns in the city of Brooklyn during the months of July and August last, pointing out that the sudden appearance of this insect in enormous numbers in the center of a densely populated city, hundreds of miles from any previous point of destructive appearance and in the middle of a summer characterized by excessive precipitation and upon closely-cut lawns which had been frequently watered, afforded an instance entirely unprecedented in the history of the species.