

purposes in road-making is fully treated. We presume the chemistry and technology of cements have been fully treated in other works by the same author; but we think the omission in the present work of this subject has been a mistake, as many problems in road construction depend for their successful solution upon a thorough and discriminating knowledge of the nature and quality of the cements that are upon the market.

Another defect of the work of a more serious nature, arises from the attempt of an engineer to discuss problems that do not pertain to engineering. We refer to the entire discussion of the subjects embraced in Chapter XIII. This work is published in 1903, yet a careful examination of the entire chapter fails to disclose anything more recent than about two years, and most of it is ten years old. The chapter is evidently written up 'from the book,' instead of from actual experience and personal knowledge; hence the discussion proceeds without discrimination.

It is not to be expected that an author will discuss all subjects equally well; but it is to be regretted that in a work furnishing in other respects so much material of permanent value, this important subject of asphalt pavement should be discussed in such a manner as to be often misleading and generally of but little worth.

While the work will greatly aid the builders of city streets, we believe it will especially commend itself to that larger body of intelligent men who are at this time interested in the improvement of country roads, and to them we commend its careful perusal.

S. F. PECKHAM.

#### SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

THE March number of the *Biological Bulletin*, Volume IV., No. 4, contains the following papers:

W. M. WHEELER and J. F. McCLENDON: 'Dimorphic Queens in an American Ant (*Lasius latipes* Walsh).'

RALPH S. LILLIE: 'Fusion of Blastomeres and Nuclear Division without Cell-division in Solutions of Non-electrolytes.'

CHARLES T. BRUES: 'The Structure and Significance of Vestigial Wings among Insects.'

S. J. HOLMES: 'Death-Feigning in Terrestrial Amphipods.'

EDMUND B. WILSON: 'Notes on the Reversal of Asymmetry in the Regeneration of the Chelae in *Alpheus heterochelis*.'

FLORENCE PEEBLES: 'A Preliminary Note on the Position of the Primitive Streak, and its Relation to the Embryo of the Chick.'

THE principal contents of the *National Geographic Magazine* for March include 'The Canadian Boundary,' by John W. Foster, ex-Secretary of State (a review of the methods by which the line has been adjusted and marked); 'Mountains of Unimak Island, Alaska,' by Ferdinand Westdahl; 'Opening of the Alaskan Territory,' by Harrington Emerson; 'The Forests of Canada,' 'Work in the Far South,' 'The Development of Cuba,' 'Theories of Volcanic Action.' Geographic notes and literature.

#### SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

##### GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

At the 139th meeting of the society, held in the assembly hall of the Cosmos Club, Wednesday evening, February 25, 1903, an important discussion on the 'Genetic Classification of Ore Deposits,' begun on January 14, was continued.

Mr. Emmons, in opening the discussion, remarked that the classification of ore deposits on a purely genetic basis had been proposed, not as a practical classification, or one that could at the present day be anything more than tentative, but mainly for the purpose of bringing out the theoretical views to which various workers had arrived as the result of their studies. It seemed, therefore, important to distinguish what was purely speculative from what had actually been demonstrated. Messrs. Weed and Spurr, who had opened the discussion, ascribed an importance to igneous agencies which probably would not be admitted by a large class of workers in the field, especially as applied to certain deposits given as types of one or the other of their classes. This application seemed based on speculation rather than on actual demonstration. The important question seemed to be the capability of igneous magmas to supply