

impossible to cover this work in the time allotted to botany in the secondary schools, but there can be no doubt as to the high value of these suggestions, from which the teacher may well make such selections as his time may permit.

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#### CURRENT NOTES ON METEOROLOGY.

##### FOEHN WINDS IN THE ANTARCTIC.

DURING the Antarctic voyage of the *Discovery*, warm southerly winds were observed which, because of their high temperature, have generally been regarded as of *foehn*-like character. Sir Clements Markham (*Geogr. Journ.*, June) believes that the high temperature may result from the fact that these winds blow from the ocean beyond the pole, that is, Weddell Sea, and not from adiabatic warming during descent. Hence he thinks that the Great Barrier may end on the other side of the pole with another line of ice-cliffs facing the Weddell Sea, and that the winds may blow across the ice barrier with great velocity without lowering their temperature. On the other hand, Dr. W. N. Shaw suggests that the snow which comes with these warm southerly winds is carried along in a surface drift, and notes that intensely cold air can contain very little moisture.

##### LOW TEMPERATURE IN THE SAHARA.

IN the *Meteorologische Zeitschrift* for June, 1905, there is a note on some low temperatures observed on December 19, 1904, in the Sahara, between Tuggurt and Guerrara. The temperature at midnight was 30.2° Fahr.; at day-break (6:15 A.M.), 28.4°; at sunrise (7:15 A.M.), 33.8°; at 2:30 P.M., in the shade, 75.2°; at 7 P.M., 41.0°; and at 8:30 P.M., 39.2°. It was calm, and the sky was clear. On December 20, at 7:30 P.M., the temperature was 33.8°, and there was heavy frost, which in places reached a thickness of 1 cm.

##### NOTES.

*Das Wetter* for June, 1905, contains an interesting article, of a 'popular' nature, entitled 'Aus dem Leben der Wolken,' by Dr.

A. de Quervain; also a discussion, illustrated by means of curves, entitled 'Temperaturen auf Bergstationen und in der freien Atmosphäre,' by Dr. W. Wundt.

THE *Annuaire météorologique* of the Royal Observatory of Belgium contains a useful list of text-books of meteorology, prepared by J. Vincent. Special attention is paid to *general* treatises, but a considerable number of special works on marine, medical and agricultural climatology are included. The list begins with Aristotle, and includes books in Latin, Greek, English, French, German, Italian, Dutch, Russian, Danish, Spanish, Hungarian, Norwegian and Portuguese.

THE mechanism of the origin of rain-clouds, and the conditions of heavy rains and floods on the northern slope of the Pyrenees, were discussed by Marchand, Director of the Pic du Midi Observatory, before the Congrès du Sud-Ouest Navigable, held at Bordeaux in June, 1902. The paper was printed in the proceedings of that congress, and a German translation of a portion of the article, in the *Meteorologische Zeitschrift* for June, 1905, makes this interesting study accessible to the general reader.

RECENT publications on the meteorology of the free air are those of Teisserenc de Bort, on the diurnal changes in temperature (*Comptes rendus*, Vol. cxi., 1905, 467) and of Hergesell, on the results obtained by means of kites over the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean in 1904 (*ibid.*, January 30, 1905).

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#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

THE annual report of the council for the year 1904-5 states that the arrangements for the meeting of the association in South Africa had been directed, under the sanction of the council, by a special South African committee, sitting in London, and consisting of the general officers of the association (the president and president-elect, the general treasurer and the general secretaries), Professor Armstrong, Dr. Horace Brown, Sir William Crookes, Sir