made with Michaelson's wonderful apparatus, no allowance appears to have been made for the effect of the gravitational bending of light. Obviously this would make the apparent angular diameter greater than the real, and a rough approximation shows that this gravitational effect may be of the same or an even larger order of magnitude than the observed angle.

Knowing the parallax and being able to make an approximate estimate of the density, the true diameter of Betelgeuse may be determined with fair accuracy. I have made a rough calculation and find that it is approximately only one fifth of the diameter given, but the calculation should be made by others better fitted than I am.

Reginald A. Fessenden

THE CONSERVATION OF GAME AND FUR-BEARING ANIMALS

The New York State Conservation Commission issues *The Conservationist*. Among the many important communications in it, I wish to call especial attention to one, "New York's annual game dividend," written by Warwick S. Carpenter, secretary of the Conservation Commission.

On the basis of precise data the conclusion is reached that the game and fur-bearing animals of New York state, if capitalized, are worth not less than $53,000,000; they return an annual dividend of more than $3,200,000; and they cost the state for their protection and increase the nominal sum of $182,000. This cost of protection and increase is thus less than six per cent. of the annual dividend.

There is need for emphasizing the financial as well as the æsthetic and scientific sides of the conservation problem and these findings of Mr. Carpenter deserve wide publicity.

Henry B. Ward

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

A Laboratory Manual of Anthropometry. By Harris H. Wilder, Ph.D., Professor of Zoology, Smith College, Northampton, Mass. 200 pp., 43 illus., P. Blakiston's Son and Co., Phila., 1920.

In order that the records of each observer may be readily made use of by every other observer, it is imperative that series of measures be uniform and be taken in uniform ways. The matter of unification was first placed upon an international basis by the International Congress of Anthropologists held at Monaco in 1906. The unification process was carried still further at the Geneva Congress in 1912. There remain for consideration at some future Congress the general skeletal measures, exclusive of the cranium and lower jaw.

The work of the special International Commissions rightly forms the basis of Wilder's Laboratory Manual. However his statement on page vi of the Preface, that the periodicals in which the reports of the labors of the two Commissions "appeared were exclusively European," is incorrect; for a report from the reviewer's pen, of the work accomplished at Geneva, translated from the official copy of Dr. Rivet, chief recorder of the Commission, appeared both in Science[1] and in the *American Anthropologist* for the year 1912.

To the measures accepted by international agreement, the author adds a convenient and useful list of general skeletal measures, as well as angles and indices. No mention is made of the Sphenomaxillary angle, which might well find a place even in an abridged manual. His enumeration of instruments and description of the manner in which they are employed are done with a thorough knowledge of the difficulties which beset the beginner. The pages devoted to simple biometric methods were written for the special benefit of the student, whose chief interest is in morphological relations, and whose mathematical ability and training are not sufficient to enable him to follow abstruse biometric methods.

To the laboratory student of the subject, Wilder's Manual is recommended for its lucidity and conciseness, as well as for the author's ability to transmit a maximum amount of his own pervading enthusiasm for the subject by means of the printed page.

[1] Vol. XXXVI., 603–608, November 1, 1912.