

and promoting human welfare irrespective of caste or creed. He also set apart a sum of twenty-five lakhs for instituting research work on anæmia and allied malignant

diseases, and for rewarding successful investigators in that direction.

F. N. MOWDAWALLA.

### Reviews.

IN the series of the *Indian Zoological Memoirs* a recent publication which forms the 4th volume of this series, deserves mention. The Memoir is on the common Apple-snail (*Pila*) and is written by Dr. Bains Prashad, Superintendent, Zoological Survey of India. A complete account of the shell and anatomy of the mollusc, illustrated with 43 figures in the text, is given in this work, and a short chapter at the end deals with the directions for practical work for the students using this Memoir. The series is proving of great use to elementary students of Zoology working on Indian animal types, and it is hoped that it will be possible to continue publishing further memoirs in this series. The present memoir, like the preceeding ones, is published by the Methodist Publishing House, Lucknow, and its price is Rs. 2.

B.N.C.

*Principles of Soil Microbiology.* By Selman A. Waksman. Second Edition, pp. xxviii+894 (London: Bailliere, Tindall and Cox, 1931). Price, 52-6 net.

Prof. Waksman has rendered signal service to the cause of soil microbiology by the publication of a revised and amplified second edition of his already well-known 'Principles'.

The present publication marks a definite improvement on the first edition. Some of the older chapters have been abridged and re-written; others have been newly added, incorporating the more recent work on the decomposition of organic matter and on the relation between plant-growth and micro-organisms. The already extensive bibliography has been amplified to include all the important publications of recent years. So complete is the information provided by the new edition that it deserves to be used as a volume of reference by those engaged in research.

While bearing ample testimony to the Herculean efforts of the author, the book betrays some of the limitations inevitable to a publication of its type. Owing to the vastness and the somewhat confused nature of the literature accumulating in different directions, many of the chapters read like threaded summaries from the card-index. The above together with the somewhat indifferent style, render the book rather unpalatable for the general reader who wishes to imbibe the principles of soil microbiology from its pages. The value of the bibliography has also been somewhat marred by the mistakes in citing some of the references.

The book has been well printed on good paper and, considering its size, is remarkably free from print mistakes. The price is unfortunately rather high and would not readily commend itself to the average purse.

V.S.

*The Veterinary Bulletin*, 1932, Volume 2, No. 2, pp. 65—130.

This Journal, which is a monthly from January 1932, aims at being an abstracting Journal dealing with current literature, and including references to all important British and foreign scientific work relating to veterinary research, administration, public health and education. The annual subscription is £2, and it is published by the Imperial Bureau of Animal Health, Weybridge, Surrey, England.

The February issue of the volume is of absorbing interest and contains extracts from or summaries of over 120 articles, arranged and classified under heading like the following:—*Diseases caused by Bacteria and Fungi, Diseases caused by Protozoan Parasites, Diseases caused by Filtrable Viruses, Diseases caused by Metazoan Parasites, etc.* One cannot but be struck by the care

with which the extracts have been made, and the skill displayed by the Editor and staff in dealing with them.

Of special interest to workers in diseases of animal pathology in India, are the reviews on articles contributed by workers on tuberculosis, its diagnosis and control, the diagnosis of Johne's disease using a "Bowel-Washing" method, the diagnosis of streptococcic mastitis, complications in sheep arising from the feeding of prickly pear, diseases caused by piroplasms, the control of cattle-plague in Dahomey, literature relating to foot-and-mouth disease, serum sickness in rabbits, the colon bacteria occurring in the milk-supply at Pusa and findings on investigations of other items of interest.

V.K.

Lt.-Col. R. B. Seymour Sewell, I.M.S., Director of the Zoological Survey of India, has published the 2nd part of his extensive

studies on Copepoda of the Indian seas in Vol. X of the *Memoirs of the Indian Museum*. The part now published is a continuation of the work published in 1929 in the same volume. The Memoir is of exceptional interest and deals with all the species of *Calanoida* found in the Indian seas. In addition to the species examined by the author, references are given to all the forms recorded from the Indian region. The work is beautifully illustrated and should make the study of this difficult group easier for future workers. The particular feature of interest of this work is the record of the presence of small glands opening on the surface through pores in the chitinous covering. These glands, which had been recorded in the case of a few forms only, are now shown to occur much more widely in the group of the *Copepoda* dealt with by the author.

B.P.

### Coming Events.

#### South Indian Science Association, Bangalore.

##### CENTRAL COLLEGE, BANGALORE

19th August, 1932.

'The Technique of Talkies', by Dr. L. C. Verman, M.A., Ph.D.

22nd August, 1932.

'Vegetable Ghee', by Mr. P. Ramaswamy Ayyar, M.A., A.I.I.Sc.

2nd September, 1932.

'Ordinary and Alloy Steels', by Mr. D. V. Krishna Rao, B.A.

#### Society of Biological Chemists (India).

17th August, 1932.

Mr. Nugehalli Narayana, M.Sc., A.I.C., A.I.I.Sc., on 'Biological value of the proteins of some Indian foodstuffs'.

24th August, 1932.

Prof. V. Subrahmanyam, D.Sc., F.I.C., on 'The Present Agricultural Depression and a Solution'.

31st August, 1932.

Mr. M. Sreenivasaya, B.A., A.I.I.Sc., on 'Studies of Scars in relation to Sandal Spike'.

### Current Science Rupee Fund.

#### An Appeal.

There is at present no Journal published in India which deals with all branches of scientific work. It has been felt for some time that a publication of this nature would assist in co-ordinating research and in supplying up-to-date scientific information. The matter was discussed by a number of the members of the Indian Science Congress at the Bangalore meeting last January, and it was unanimously agreed that such a Journal was most desirable and an

influential Committee was formed to examine the scheme in detail.

It has now been decided to publish a monthly periodical with the title "Current Science". Many offers of help have been received, but before the scheme can be finally launched the financial position must be firmly secured. To effect this the Committee has decided to institute a "Rupee Fund" to which every one interested in science in India is requested to