

Die Sedimente des äquatorialen Atlantischen Ozeans Lief. 2: C. Zusammenstellung der Untersuchungsergebnisse nach Stationen geordnet; D. Auswertung der Ergebnisse. Von Prof. Dr. Carl W. Correns; mit Beiträgen von V. Leinz und O. E. Radzewski. (Wissenschaftliche Ergebnisse der deutschen Atlantischen Expedition auf dem Forschungs- und Vermessungsschiff *Meteor* 1925–1927, herausgegeben im Auftrage der Notgemeinschaft der deutschen Wissenschaft von Prof. Dr. Albert Defant, Band 3, Teil 3.) Pp. xii+135–298. (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter und Co., 1937.) 20 gold marks.

IN this report, Dr. Correns gives the result of the mechanical, mineralogical, chemical and microscopic examination of more than a hundred specimens of the bottom deposits from the equatorial parts of the Atlantic Ocean. The larger number of these were cores obtained with a sampler of the Ekman type, and the longest measured 95 cm. When the core consisted of more than one part, each part was examined separately, and in nearly every case it was possible to assign it to its period, glacial, interglacial or post-glacial. An interesting result of this is that it is shown that in glacial times fine sand blew seawards from northern Africa as it does now from the Sahara.

The mineral components of the various types of deposit are found to be much more uniform than was supposed previously; the minerals occurring in blue mud, Globigerina ooze and red clay are strikingly similar. Special attention was paid to the content of calcium carbonate, which is of great interest in view of Wattenberg's investigations into the conditions under which it is dissolved by the bottom water. In the deep sea it is chiefly foraminiferous, and W. Schott has found that the sieve fraction No. 2, with a particle radius of 1.0–0.1 mm., consists almost entirely of foraminifera. He uses this weight to calculate the 'foraminifera number' of the deposit.

Dr. Correns sees in the deep sea deposits of the equatorial Atlantic Ocean a transition from blue mud with rapid sedimentation of the mineral components, by way of the calcareous clays and Globigerina ooze to the red clay, in which the finest minerals fall slowly to the bottom while the calcium carbonate is redissolved.

Fortschritte der Paläontologie

Herausgegeben von O. H. Schwindewolf. Band 1: Bericht über die Jahre 1935 und 1936. Pp. viii+374. (Berlin: Gebrüder Borntraeger, 1937.) 29.60 gold marks.

THIS new periodical is intended to form a biennial review of the progress of palaeontology. It was planned with the idea that it should serve to keep up to date the "Handbuch der Paläozoologie", but the publication of that work was delayed and the first part has only recently appeared.

The arrangement of the volume is similar to that of the *Palaeontologisches Zentralblatt*. It begins with sections on text-books, phylogeny, palaeogeography, zoogeography and other general subjects, followed by sections on different groups of fossils, each written by someone with a special knowledge of the group

and concluded with a select bibliography. Each section aims at giving a summary of the more important work published in the years 1935 and 1936. With so many authors there must necessarily be some want of uniformity in both the character and the amount of information given; moreover, the quality and amount of research done must vary in different groups, so that some sections of the volume lend themselves to more interesting treatment than others.

The periodical should be of great value to advanced students and to specialists who wish to keep in touch with the work which is being done in other fields of palaeontology.

Heredity

By Prof. A. Franklin Shull. (McGraw-Hill Publications in the Zoological Sciences.) Third edition. Pp. xvii+442+1 plate. (New York and London: McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1938.) 21s.

THIS book has been largely rewritten in the present edition. Its contents are still concerned mainly with the genetics of cultivated plants, domesticated animals and man. The human side has been considerably extended, and the order of the chapters rearranged. Chapters are included on eugenics, population, race problems and immigration.

The book is intended as an introductory statement on genetics for first-year students in American universities who have had no previous training in biology and are taking up the subject from the general cultural point of view. It contains much that would be of interest to the general reader and should help the student to orientate himself regarding the bearing of genetics on human affairs. The quantitative or biometric side of genetics is treated in an appendix of twelve pages. This is followed by a series of 660 "questions and problems" based on the text, a list of literature and an index. No typographical errors were noticed, but Fig. 34 A, from another text-book, gives a misleading conception of the relative size of the parts in a flower bud.

La Vie des mouches et des moustiques

Par E. Séguy. (Bibliothèque Juventa.) Pp. 254+12 plates. (Paris: Librairie Delegrave, 1938.) 16 francs.

M SÉGUY, the author of this manual, is a well-known student and writer on the Diptera. The book, therefore, is authoritative although essentially non-technical. Written in a clear style, it conveys to the general reader the latest essential information regarding flies and mosquitoes, their habits and, more especially, their relations with man. The title of the book does not really convey the idea of its main purpose, which is to disseminate knowledge of the great economic importance of this order of insects. It deals in special with the relations of Diptera to human and animal disease, whether it be caused by the larvæ (myiasis) or brought about by the adult flies as vectors. The book is illustrated by numerous figures combined into 12 plates which are drawn by the author. It deserves a good reception, not only in France, but in other lands also.

A. D. I.