Reviews

The Geology of Oxford. By W. J. Arkell. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1947. Pp. viii+ 268 ; 6 plates, 49 text-figures. 20s.

This is a most important monograph and a welcome addition to the geological literature of these islands. Although essentially an increment to the author's already imposing series of publications on his own science, yet it will appeal to a far wider range of readers than its title suggests. Dr. Arkell's book betrays a vast experience of observation, mainly in exposures revealed by commercial excavations and undertakings. With a wealth but never dulness of detail, Dr. Arkell considers the evidences and relics of the manifold geological processes that went to the formation and scenery of the Oxford region. This is taken as an area of roughly 30 miles radius from the city. Its geology, which he rightly points out virtually epitomizes that of all south England east of the Palaeozoic platform, can be studied in day excursions.

To the archaeologist, particularly the student of man's earliest stages of cultural development, the chapters devoted to the Quaternary will be of great value. They must assuredly stimulate researches in a district of river terraces and other Pleistocene records hitherto but shyly approached, though now demonstrated by the author's discoveries and collations to be full of possibilities. It may be that his work in the deposits of the region, to which Dr. Arkell has so long paid close attention, has proved the existence of Palaeolithic early and late hand-axe industries comparable and correlatable with those of the Somme valley, and until now misinterpreted or unsatisfactorily differentiated. The typology of the implements is well brought out in the drawings. Having regard, however, to the prolific spreads of gravel farther down the valley, one would like to know what representative flake-industries exist around Oxford. Such, taken in conjunction with allied evidences, might go far to bridge the gaps in the sequence which Dr. Arkell admits. As with the Palaeolithic, so with later prehistoric antiquities, he demonstrates how much the archaeologist depends on the geologist. In this connexion one thinks of his aerial views of ice-cracks and the warning which they carry to the unwary, who might be tempted to see man's work in the lines revealed on the land surface by photography. Comments on place-names in relation to natural features will afford much inspiration to the antiquary and interest to the lay reader.

The author does not omit to mention man's help to geology, for instance the effects of agriculture and engineering upon rivers and the locality in general. Summing up, Dr. Arkell tells us that geology, having no time limits, is as ceaseless to-day in its processes, whether aided or not, as in the most dim past and throughout the ages.

This book, with ample footnotes and copious references, will assuredly long rank as a standard work on geology and as a model for other writers. For, apart from its scientific merit and usefulness, the great and poetic charm with which it is written warrant for it a high place. More, it enshrines lessons in careful observations, the published deductions from which have always marked the author as a master. The illustrations, halftone or line, are excellent and in keeping with a production upon which Dr. Arkell is to be warmly congratulated. Every praise is due also to the Oxford University Press for maintaining its unimpeachable standard despite the difficulties of the times.

A. D. Lacaille.

A Hoard of Roman Folles from Diocletian's Reform (A.D. 296) to Constantine Caesar found at Fyfield, Berks. By E. T. Leeds, M.A., F.S.A. Oxford: printed for the Visitors and sold at the Ashmolean Museum, 1946. Pp. 64; 8 plates. 15s.

This hoard of 2,105 *folles* of the tetrarchies and a single worn radiate of Aurelian was found in March, 1944, about 1¼ miles south-west of Fyfield village and close to the long earthwork known as Aelfrith's Dyke, which here forms the parish boundary between Fyfield and Kingston Bagpuize and may mark the line of a trackway in use in Roman times connecting the Oxford-Frilford road at Grove with a Thames crossing near Newbridge and thence with Stanton Harcourt, Eynsham and Cassington. The coins must have been packed not in a jar as is usual with personal hoards, but in a sack or chest, and it is suggested by Mr. Leeds that their quantity and weight (about 42½ lbs.) would be consistent with the use of a standard bag or *follis* (hence the name of the coin) employed under the tetrarchy for the transport of copper currency. A standard bag of this capacity would correspond closely with that still used by English banks for the bulk handling of pennies and with the recognized 40 lb. load of a lightly-equipped soldier. If Mr. Leeds is right (and his conclusion is supported by the uniformity of the hoard and the excellent condition of most of the coins), the hoard was an official parcel of some sort, either a consignment of military pay or more likely a banker's deposit lost or purloined in transit along this secondary road.

A large hoard of this homogeneous type provides an unusual opportunity for studying the economic problems of the moment of its deposit as those problems are reflected in contemporary currency. Mr. Leeds has seized this opportunity with both hands and his report is of outstanding interest as a contribution to the monetary history of the confused period from 296 to 307, during which Diocletian and his colleagues and successors were tackling heroically, but with somewhat indifferent success, the economic problems of a world crying out for stability and recovery. His suggestions cover not only numerous points of technical numismatic interest in the dating and attribution of different types to the various mints and their *officinae* in the western provinces, but also such general questions as the purpose of the large *follis* issues, the degree of their success or failure, and the relations of the members of the tetrarchies to one another as indicated by the activities and monetary policies of mints under their individual control. Many of the suggestions are controversial, as, e.g., his view that the mysterious letters S F appearing on certain *follis* issues 'denote nothing more or less than *sacer follis*'. This solution, while possessing an attractive simplicity, seems to carry with it the supposition that the *follis* coinage antedates the tetrarchy, for these letters are not unknown on coins of Carausius. Mr. Leeds accepts this consequence of his argument, but it would be interesting to know the reason for his belief 'that the *follis* as a coin goes back behind the tetrarchy' (p. 16).

The report is excellently produced, the catalogue of the coins, which occupies twenty-five pages, is set out with most generous, perhaps over-generous allocation of space, and the photography of the plates, which are reproduced on a matt paper, is first class. If only for the splendidly legible illustrations of ninety-six *follis* coin-types of Diocletian, Maximian, Constantius, Galerius, Severus, Maximin and Constantine as Caesar this would be a notable production. But its value is much more than that of a numismatic picture-book or the study of a single hoard.

J. N. L. Myres

London Museum Catalogues, No. 7, Mediaeval Catalogue. London Museum, Lancaster House, St. James's, S.W.1, 1940.[1] Pp. 320; 97 plates, 90 text-figures. 10s. (paper covers), 10s. 6d. (bound).

It is not normally within the scope of *Oxoniensia* to notice publications that are not concerned with the Oxford district. It is, however, not inappropriate to break the rule in the present instance, for this *Catalogue*, though not primarily concerned with our local antiquities, will prove so helpful in elucidating them that it is certain that readers of *Oxoniensia* will wish to know of its existence.

The text (mainly the work of Mr. J. B. Ward Perkins, lately Assistant in the London Museum and now Director of the British School in Rome) is divided into three sections: I. Weapons; II. Horse-furniture; III, Domestic and agricultural objects, and is copiously illustrated. It forms, in effect, a most admirable summary text-book to the smaller antiquities of the 11th to the 15th centuries. The section on horse-furniture and the pages in section III on keys, purses, pottery (this by Mr. G. C. Dunning), floor-tiles, and small articles of dress (belt-chapes, buckles, brooches, etc.) are likely to prove of special value. But where everything is excellent it is perhaps unnecessary to single out anything for specific mention, and the whole 320 pages are packed with information indispensable to the mediaeval archaeologist.

D. B. HARDEN.

Church Dedications of the Oxford Diocese. By the Bishop of Oxford (Dr. K. E. Kirk). Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1946. Pp. viii+92; 3 maps. 5s.

The Bishop of Oxford prefaces his study of the church dedications in his diocese with the frank admission that he is 'the merest amateur in antiquarian research'. Any reader of this little book, as of Canon Streeter's *The Chained Library*, will quickly discover that a theologian strenuously trained in the study of documentary evidence can bring a very alert and discerning eye to bear upon an unfamiliar field of antiquarian research.

For the purpose of his survey the Bishop depends in the main on the lists compiled by Miss F. Arnold-Foster for her *Studies in Church Dedications*, and on the ascriptions given in *Crockford* and the *Oxford Diocesan Calendar;* but any computation of the frequency of particular dedications, as the Bishop has himself found, is made difficult owing to the large discrepancies that exist between these authorities. Moreover, these authorities have drawn as a primary source of supply upon the 1742 edition of Ecton's *Thesaurus Rerum Ecclesiasticarum*, for which 'the learned and communicative antiquary' Browne Willis contributed lists of dedications. While recognizing the indebtedness of the Oxford diocese to Browne Willis as a churchman, the Bishop has no illusions as to the unreliability of the *Thesaurus* as evidence for church dedications.

A further difficulty, which the Bishop duly appreciates, arises from the fact that his diocese is composed of two counties, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, drawn from the mediaeval diocese of Lincoln and of one, Berkshire, from the mediaeval diocese of Salisbury; consequently as a unit of study in this connexion the diocese of Oxford lacks a certain homogeneity.

The Bishop's approach to his subject is largely statistical. He furnishes a

[1] The *Catalogue*, though bearing the date 1940, was not published until early in 1946, owing to the war.

table for each of the three counties, giving the number of the several dedications, a fourth table giving the order of the popularity of the principal dedications in the diocese, and in each of the three counties, and another giving the principal English dedications compared with those of the Oxford diocese.

The conclusion to be drawn from a study of these tables is, as the Bishop notes, rather negative, as the Thames valley and its watersheds did not produce many local saints, and was beyond the range of influence of the missionary saints of the north or of the hermit-saints of the south-west. One Cornish saint, St. Budoc, might have been included in his chapter on rare dedications, as there was a church bearing his name in Oxford during the earlier part of the mediaeval period. Indeed, it would appear that the Bishop has not taken into account the vanished churches in his diocese ; otherwise he might have added to the more rare dedications, St. Mildred's, Oxford (it made way for Lincoln College), and St. Lucian's, Wallingford. Another dedication to St. Cecilia, on the rarity of which he comments, is to be found in the free chapel dedicated to her which formerly stood in the churchyard of Minster Lovell.

It is a pity that the Bishop follows the lead of Mr. James Parker and dismisses St. Aldate as a corruption of ' Aldgate '. Lost legends of English saints are not unknown, e.g. St. Werstan of Malvern, and St. Robert of Bury. The ' old gate ' theory may well fail to convince when it is remembered that the gate in question was associated in the Middle Ages with the church of the neighbouring parish that lay outside the city wall and was known as St. Michael's Southgate.

The Bishop directs particular attention ' to the curious fact that, of the 45 known dedications of the Assumption in the country, no less than 17 occur in the Oxford diocese ', and remarks that ten of these ' all lie in a little strip of N. Buckinghamshire about 20 miles long and 8 miles broad, through the length of which runs the so-called Bedfordshire Ouse '. He invites the conclusion that these dedications are associated with pilgrim-routes to Walsingham. This is a bold invitation and seems to require a good deal more evidence to support it than the Bishop has adduced.

In the first place, these Assumption dedications need to be better substantiated. From the evidence of the English parish guilds bearing this dedication, mostly belonging to the second half of the 14th century, it would appear that the vogue for it came in far too late to affect the dedications of these particular Buckinghamshire churches. It may be suspected on other grounds that their original dedication was to St. Mary the Virgin without any specific reference to her Assumption, and that the Feast of the Assumption, the only one of the festivals in honour of our Lady to fall in the summer months, came to be observed in these parishes as their patronal festival. This disposition may be detected at Whitchurch, which lies in the Chiltern Gap on the north side of the Thames. The church there is dedicated to St. Mary. In 1243 Sir Roger de Hyda received a licence from Bishop Grosseteste to have a private chapel in his manor house on condition that he and his heirs provided 2 lbs. of wax each year for two candles to burn ' super majus Altare Sancte Marie ' in the parish church on the Feast of the Assumption (*Rotuli Rob. Grosseteste*, p. 474). To argue from the date of village-feasts where church dedications to our Lady are concerned may well lead to pitfalls. The explanation here offered for so-called Assumption dedications seems easier than one that attempts to link them with pilgrim-routes, which it has yet to be proved can be given in this country the sort of significance that Professor Émile Mâle has been justified in giving them in France.

Moreover, the Bishop seems to have overlooked the fact that it was not until after the fall of the pilgrim-church of our Lady at Nazareth into the hands of the Moslems in 1263 that the great popularity of the shrine of our Lady at Walsingham grew.

On another point I find myself unconvinced by the Bishop's persuasive argument. He suggests that the dedication of St. Mary-le-Moor at Cadmore End may derive from it formerly being in the patronage of St. Mary's Abbey, Abingdon, ' whose great church may well have been known as St. Mary-the-More '. Until a vanished church in Abingdon, dedicated to St. Mary-the-Less is found, the alternative explanation of St. Mary-by-the-Moor or Mere seems preferable. There are several instances of the use of ' Moor ' (*mora*), in the sense of a large tract of open ground liable to be waterlogged, being employed in mediaeval Oxfordshire.

If there may be learned, as the Bishop hopes, from the church dedications of his diocese ' something of the movements of religious thought and feeling in Oxon., Berks. and Bucks. during their long history ', the picture will be more complete, if it is remembered that certain saints had considerable popularity in this diocese without any trace of it appearing in church dedications, e.g. St. Christopher (as evidenced by wall-paintings) and St. Rumwold of Buckingham ' ubi usque hodie in magna veneratione habetur ', if we may believe the testimony of the author of the *Nova Legenda Anglie*.

A. B. EMDEN.

Wootton : The History of an Oxfordshire Parish. By Colonel Charles Ponsonby, T.D., D.L., M.P. Oxford University Press, 1947. Pp. 140 ; 16 plates and a map. 21s.

Everything has its compensations—even the black-out. In our district it has helped to give us the Bishop of Oxford's *Church Dedications of the Oxford Diocese* and Colonel Ponsonby's *Wootton*. In the latter work the author has pursued a two-fold aim : to make a small contribution to history and to provide an account of the parish which should be of interest to his fellow inhabitants. Since Colonel Ponsonby disclaims the name of historian and Wootton is a remote village which soon after the Conquest began to be overshadowed by its neighbour Woodstock, it is hardly surprising that it is in the second of his two objects that he has achieved the more conspicuous success. It was certainly a good idea to try to place Wootton in its contemporary setting during four periods which run from prehistoric times down to 1945. But owing to meagre evidence, Wootton not infrequently tends to melt into its background. And when, for example, details of economic interest relating to the mediaeval village are available, Colonel Ponsonby has had to rely largely upon records already printed in Ballard's *Woodstock Manor in the Thirteenth Century*. The main addition to our knowledge of the mediaeval history of Wootton which has been made since Ballard wrote is the fact that the King held an estate there at the time of the Domesday survey, and probably before (*V.C.H., Oxfordshire*, vol. 1). Woodstock, although there must have been royal hunting-quarters there in 1016, is only mentioned in Domesday as a royal forest. Evidently Wootton, later a dependent of the King's manor of Woodstock, was originally the more important place, and the King's claim to ownership was not only earlier but undisputed. It may be noted in passing that Colonel Ponsonby's statement (p. 19) that ' at the beginning of the fourteenth century the Manor and Park of Woodstock were acquired by the Crown from the Brothers of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem ' needs amplification. Moreover, the opening sentence of the book about the finding of

fossils of the Palaeolithic Age at Wootton needs considerable amendment and elucidation as, indeed, if in a lesser degree, do all the paragraphs about pre-Norman times.

When we reach the chapters dealing with particular aspects of the life of the parish, Wootton—especially the Wootton of the last three centuries—comes alive. Here Colonel Ponsonby is completely and literally at home. He has known the parish intimately since early childhood, for Woodleys, his estate within its borders, was bought by his father in 1881 : even if he had not told us of his delight, it would have been obvious that the work of reconstructing his ' bit of England ' had been a labour of love. Colonel Ponsonby's painstaking treatment of such topics as the Rectors and their Glebe, the Church, the Parish Books and Documents is invaluable and sets an admirable example of what could be done, even if on a less ambitious scale, for many other Oxfordshire villages. For although in his Introduction the author cites several histories of villages in the neighbourhood of Wootton alone, the fact remains that, generally speaking, the student seeking printed information about Oxfordshire parish history is sadly at a loss. Skelton's *Antiquities* cannot rank among the greater of our old county histories, and as yet only two (introductory) volumes of the *V.C.H.* have appeared. Above all, those readers whom Colonel Ponsonby has had especially in mind have cause to thank him : the parishioners of Wootton cannot fail to be fascinated by this detailed account of their past. There is abundant evidence that an interest in local antiquities does exist in our villages, and in encouragement of that interest lies the greatest hope that the ' foundations laid by their forefathers ' will be handed on by the present generation. Herein, to my thinking, consists the chief importance of Colonel Ponsonby's book.

M. R. Toynbee.

The Parish Church of St. Mary Kidlington in the County of Oxford ; the history and architecture. By Howard Freeborn, M.A. Printed by J. Smart and Co., Brackley, and obtainable from the Vicar [1947]. Pp. 36 ; 9 half-tone illustrations, 1 plan. Price 3s. 6d.

Mr. Howard Freeborn has written a competent guide-book to Kidlington Church. As a guide-book it may at first seem both lengthy and expensive ; but the proceeds of the sale of the book are to be devoted to the Church Restoration Fund. One wishes only that Mr. Freeborn had told us what was going to be restored, and how.

Mr. Freeborn's descriptions of the fabric, the bells, and the church-plate are thorough. He quotes Mr. E. A. G. Lamborn on the heraldry, and Mr. E. T. Long on the mural paintings, both to good effect. But it is a pity that he does not comment on the fact, clearly shown in his plan, that the W. arch of the crossing is not in the centre of the E. wall of the Nave ; for this fact suggests that the nave walls are Norman. It is a pity also that he refers to " monks " at Kidlington, when the church belonged to the Augustinian Canons of Oseney.

While there is little that is original in Mr. Freeborn's history of the church in mediaeval times, he is to be congratulated on bringing his history up to date. His researches into the parish magazine have produced interesting information about the church in the nineteenth century. Many readers will want to know more about the rioters who in 1848 broke some church windows and were fined £3, " a fine which, though imposed only by the parish, was duly paid ".

R. H. C. Davis.

The Early History of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. By J. G. Milne. Oxford, Basil Blackwell, 1946. Pp. (8)+72 ; 2 plates. 8s. 6d.

These studies are not new in the sense that they are hitherto unpublished. To members of the College they are already familiar, for they have appeared in the *Pelican Record*, though they will welcome them in their present form : but to a wider public, which may have been unaware of the quality of the articles which Dr. Milne has been publishing with the intention of awakening in Corpus undergraduates an interest in their College, they will seem more than a supplement to President Fowler's *History of Corpus*. Indeed they have postponed the need for a new edition of Fowler, such as was proposed in 1943 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of its first appearance.

Many intimate details about the early presidents and scholars of Corpus are gleaned from a study of the individual characteristics of books given to the college by some of its members—a study which is a model of the technique whereby a perceptive librarian can make the books in a college library speak. Few new documents are reproduced *in extenso*, but Dr. Milne reproduces from a photostat in President Allen's collections a document in the Public Record Office which gives a detailed record of the repercussions within the college of the struggle between Henry VIII and Rome.

The college did not evade Charles I's order to surrender its plate and it is pointed out that the Bodleian list of plate presented to the King by the several colleges which omits the name of Corpus was not a list of plate surrendered, but of plate actually melted. The college redeemed its plate and packed it out of sight wrapped in old papers whose identity Dr. Milne has already made familiar to readers of *Oxoniensia*. Whatever may be said of some members of the Newlin family, Robert Newlin, the steward, appears as a careful preserver of his extensive correspondence : and, though he did not reveal the whereabouts of the plate to the intruded fellows, they appear to have found for themselves part of the coin collection of John Barcham wrapped in other waste paper, which is also subjected to the detective's examination.

But it is not only, or primarily, as a store of new and significant detail on the lives of the men of the first century and a half of the college that this book is important. For, though Dr. Milne seldom criticizes Fowler by name, he has revolutionized a number of fundamental ideas about the history of Corpus. Corpus must no longer be regarded as an example of a new order in the College system : Fox was less of an educational innovator than William of Waynflete and even the lectures in Greek were not a novelty : the territorial limitations on candidates for admission were not intended to benefit places with which the founder had personal connexions, but to forge a link with counties where suitable properties for the College had happened to come in to the market ; and (perhaps most radical of all) ' there seems some reason for dissenting ' from the verdict of the Report of the Historical Monuments Commission that the kitchen antedates Fox's work, for the theory that it was originally the refectory of Urban Hall is a ' recent invention '.

It is a pity that Dr. Milne has confined his attention to the early history of Corpus, for Fowler could find little interest, historical material or virtue in the 18th century. In fact none is lacking, and Dr. Milne's section on the Corpus garden makes one wish for more.

W. O. Hassall.

A Christ Church Miscellany. By W. G. Hiscock. Printed for the Author at the University Press, Oxford, 1946. Pp. xx + 260; 69 plates, 10 illustrations. 21s.

Mr. Hiscock's book was printed to celebrate the four-hundredth anniversary of the refoundation of Cardinal College, in its new guise of Christ Church. By Henry VIII's deed the last great act of mediaeval piety in England has survived as a prophetic union of ecclesiastical establishment with traditional learning. The book is worthy of the occasion. Christ Church has not yet found its historian, but, when it does, he will owe a great deal to Mr. Hiscock.

'So famous, so excellent in art, and still so rising', wrote Shakespeare in *Henry VIII*, and it is with the second phrase that Mr. Hiscock deals in particular. His book is a series of essays describing the history of the buildings and the varied, but splendid, material possessions of the College, though throughout runs the theme of the development of the great library, where the author has done so much. The bells, the plate, the statuary, the pictures are all brought under review, and to each topic Mr. Hiscock has brought—as far as one reviewer can judge—the same persistent and admirable curiosity and the same careful scholarship. These qualities are nowhere better displayed than in his fascinating investigation into a number of missing volumes.

But perhaps the two most important articles are those which deal with the Oxford architect, William Townesend and with the long tale of Christ Church plays. For the latter Mr. Hiscock shows himself an enthusiast: his next edition must record the lavish performance of *Henry VIII* in which his daughter played Queen Katherine. By establishing much of the career of William Townesend he has done great service to local history; it remains, however, exceedingly difficult to disentangle the degrees of responsibility for many Oxford buildings which were divided between Townesend and such better known men as Hawksmoor and Aldrich. No doubt Townesend was the chief agent on the spot for them; no doubt, too, in some cases he may have adapted their designs; but Mr. Hiscock is perhaps tempted sometimes to overvalue the share of his discovery. A case in point is the temple at Rousham, called Townesend's building. Of this he was beyond question the chief mason, but the author is inclined to credit him with the design also. But there is preserved at Rousham a plan which Mr. Hussey (*Country Life*, 21 June, 1946) assigns on clear stylistic grounds to Kent's pencil; this design was modified in execution, but the modification seems the most that can safely be attributed to Townesend.

Among Mr. Hiscock's appendices is a list of artists and craftsmen who have worked at Christ Church. This should probably include Eustas Mascoll, whose brass at Farnham Royal proclaims him 'sometime clerke of the works of Frieswide in Oxford for Cardinal Wolsey'. Lord Orrery was the patron of the inventor rather than the actual designer (p. 74) of the instrument which bears his name.

No lover of Christ Church, no one indeed who studies and cares for the history of Oxford, can afford not to possess this book. Mr. Hiscock deserves our gratitude for the industry and learning which he has brought to his task; he should be commended also for his courage in bringing out this book at his own expense. The production and the illustrations are both admirable.

MICHAEL MACLAGAN.

The King is in his Counting House : a Prospect for Oxford. By Thomas Rayson, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A. (presented by Clifford Druce, M.A.). Oxford : the Alden Press, 1946. Pp. 90 ; 18 plates (unnumbered), 1 folding plan. 5s. 6d.

The plan devised by Mr. Rayson for the reorganization of the city and its surroundings to meet the problems created by the changing conditions of traffic and industry seems in most respects well-considered and thorough : the only interest to whose historical claims sufficient weight has perhaps not been given is agriculture. It would clearly be out of the question to restore Cornmarket to the farmers : but, as this interest is more important on the western side of Oxford than on the eastern a convenient home for it might be found outside the ring-road in the neighbourhood of Botley.

Among the problems of replanning Oxford, apart from the preservation of ancient and historical buildings, is the housing of the University ; and here a point of criticism presents itself. Mr. Rayson proposes to allot to the University for purposes of its extension certain areas in St. Ebbe's to be shared with Local Government, as well as the fields at present open between the Parks and Old Marston. The former does not seem convenient, from the standpoint of traffic, and it would be better to concentrate all local government offices in this area, possibly with the county equivalent of a civic centre for the benefit of country clients, and site any new university buildings in the second area named. So far as can be judged from present tendencies, these buildings will mainly be required for post-graduate workers, who will not be resident in the old colleges and often slightly, if at all, attached to them, and it is likely to be some convenience rather than a hardship to such students to have their laboratories outside the old university area, specially in view of the question of lodging accommodation. For administrative and for social purposes, there is a good deal to be said for the concentration of post-graduate work and workers in a special area.

Study of the map seems to suggest some awkward corners here and there, but they could doubtless be eliminated in practice, and on the whole Mr. Rayson's scheme is the most attractive that has yet been produced.

J. G. Milne.