

BOOK NOTICES.

WORK OF THE CANADIAN BIOLOGICAL STATIONS. Contributions to Canadian Biology, being Studies from the Marine Biological Stations of Canada, 1906-1910. Ottawa. C. H. Parmalee, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1912.

A handsome well-bound volume of over 300 pages, which bears the title given above, has just been issued by the Dominion Government. The two preceding volumes of Biological papers, Supplements to the Annual (Fisheries) Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, appeared in 1901 and 1907; but the present volume is a great advance upon the slim blue books just referred to. The increased generosity shown by the present Government, and the great personal interest shown by the present Minister of Marine and Fisheries have, no doubt, much to do with the great advance shown in the present Biological Volume.

To all naturalists, and especially to persons interested in fishery researches, and in investigations into the life in the sea, this report will be welcome. It includes 19 papers, with 38 plates, two of them maps; and the excellent paper, the strong binding, and above all, the really beautiful plates, most of them works of art, add to its importance as a Canadian biological publication.

Professor Prince, Dominion Commissioner of Fisheries, as Chairman of the Biological Board, furnishes an interesting preface, and claims that the Canadian Stations occupy a premier place in showing substantial results, after so short a time of operation, and with so vast a field to cover as the waters of the Dominion.

It is difficult to review a scientific volume of such varied contents as this, but it may suffice to summarize them as Narrative (like the articles by Professor Prince and the late Professor Penhallow) Practical, Faunistic, Botanical, Physiological, Physical and Geological.

Among the practical fishery papers Professor Knight's (Queen's University, Kingston) takes first place. Bait is the most vital need of our fishermen, especially sea-fishermen, and Professor Knight reports fully his experiments on bait. From these it appears that fresh clam-bait is best, frozen clams less so, while herring bait comes next, fresh herring being rather better than frozen. Squid-bait ranks next, while the flesh of the detested sea dog-fish (*Squalus acanthias*) proved to be very attractive. Professor Knight's style is very fascinating, and his references to fishermen's theories very amusing. He embodies a large amount of valuable matter in the ten pages of his report.