

NOTES.

Ophiothrix fragilis is one of the most common British Ophiurids. Some years ago when at Plymouth, England, I succeeded in obtaining a large number of the larvæ in all stages of development, and I have been engaged for the last two years in working out their structure. The adult, like all Echinodermata, is radially symmetrical, but the larva is bilaterally symmetrical, more markedly so than any other Echinoderm larva which I have examined. Further, it shows during its development, traces of a *metameric* repetition of parts such as is found in bilaterally symmetrical animals like Annelida. This metamerism is exhibited in the coelom or body-cavity vesicle. This is budded off from the apex of the gut when the larva is 2 days old, and it immediately divides into right and left halves. At the age of eight days, each half divides into a posterior vesicle lying at the side of the oesophagus. At the age of fifteen days each of the anterior vesicles buds off a thick walled posterior portion. The left one becomes the *hydrocoele* or rudiment of the water-vascular system of the adult, whilst the right loses its cavity and becomes a solid mass of cells whose further fate I am engaged in tracing.

E. W. MACBRIDE.

Zoological Laboratory,

McGill University, April, 1905.

The Marine Biological Station of Canada will open for the summer during the month of May, under the Directorship of Prof. E. E. Prince, assisted by Dr. Stafford who will be in immediate charge. The Laboratory will be located at Gaspé where investigations will be continued with respect to the problems relating to fish culture, which have been dealt with at other stations during the last five years.