

Spider, discovered by Mr. Cyril Crossland in Zanzibar, under the name *Desis Crosslandi*. — Mr. Pocock also read a paper containing descriptions of twenty new species of Harvest-Spiders of the Order Opiliones from the Southern Continents. Two of these formed the types of the new genera *Sorensenella* and *Lomanella*. — P. L. Selater, Secretary.

2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

October 29th, 1902. — 1) On two remarkable Sporocysts occurring in *Mytilus latus*, on the Coast of New Zealand. By W. A. Haswell, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., Challis Professor of Biology, University of Sydney. — One of these is the Sporocyst stage of a species of *Echinostomum*; the other that of a *Gasterostomum*. Both are bright red in colour. In the former the Cercariae are nourished, when the alimentary canal becomes fully formed, by globules given off from the cells lining the interior of the Sporocyst, and the mature Cercaria, when it escapes, carries with it a small stock of this food-matter in its intestine. The structure and development of the Cercaria are described. The second Sporocyst presents the appearance of bright red branching filaments extending in all directions through the tissues of the Mussel. The Cercaria is a *Bucephalus*, the larva of a *Gasterostomum*. — 2)—5) Botanical. — 6) On the Mammalian and Reptilian Vomerine Bones. By R. Broom, M.D., B.Sc., C.M.Z.S. The author shows that in the early stages of development the nasal capsules of the lizard and marsupial are essentially similar in structure, and that in both a well developed paraseptal cartilage runs by the base of the septum from the nasal floor cartilage in front to the hinder part of the capsule. He also shows that the so-called "vomer" in the lizard develops in connection with this cartilage; and as the dumbbell-shaped bone in *Ornithorhynchus* and the median bone of *Miniopterus* also develop as splints to the paraseptal cartilages (specialised as cartilages of Jacobson) he concludes that these mammalian bones are homologous with the so-called "vomers" of the lizard, and are therefore really "prevomers". The median vomer of the mammal is regarded as the homologue of the reptilian and amphibian "parasphenoid", as they are median splint bones developed along the basiscranial axis. The Theriodont *Gomphognathus* is shown to have a large median vomer of mammalian type, and a pair of prevomers somewhat after the manner of *Ornithorhynchus*. The Dicynodonts are shown to have only the median true vomer developed, and in this agreeing with the Cheilonians. In the higher mammals, as a rule, Jacobson's cartilage is supported by the palatine process of the premaxillary, but though the process occupies the exact situation of the prevomer it is argued that the palatine process has replaced the prevomer rather than that it represents that element. — Mr. Froggatt exhibited specimens of the curious coccid, *Frenchia casuarinae*, Mask., recently found by him on casuarinas, near Condobolin, N.S.W.; the species was originally described from the Wimmera district, Victoria, and is now recorded for the first time from New South Wales. Also specimens of the larvae of the pine-scrub beetle (*Diadoxus erythrurus*) recently collected from dead or dying Currawong bushes (*Acacia doratoxylon*) on the ranges about the Lachlan River beyond Condobolin. As living trees are to be found side by side with dead or dying ones, and as some of the latter may yield as many as half a dozen larvae, Mr. Froggatt expressed his belief that in the locality mentioned the destruction of the trees was attributable to the insects, and not to the drought.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1902

Band/Volume: [26](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Anonym

Artikel/Article: [Linnean Society of New South Wales. 176](#)