

## Notes.

### CHARCOALS FROM MAIDEN CASTLE.

The current number of *Forestry Abstracts* (Vol. III, No. 1, 1941) contains the following abstract of a paper in the *Journal of Ecology* (Vol. XXIX (1941), 117-126) and should be read with reference to the note on page 146 of the *Berkshire Archaeological Journal* Vol. XLIV (1940).

GODWIN, H., and TANSLEY, A. G. Prehistoric charcoals as evidence of former vegetation, soil and climate.

In this criticism of a recent paper by Salisbury and Jane the chief points raised and discussed are:—(i) That the evidence for the existence of closed Oak/Hazel woodland on the Dorset downs is open to question in several respects. (ii) That the evidence of vegetational and soil changes disagrees with the general framework of knowledge of the period and is also open to other objections. (iii) That the material presented is insufficient for any general statement on climate.

### OXONIENSIA, Volume V, 1940.

The current number of *Oxoniensia* contains matter of interest concerning Berkshire.

An interim report on the excavation of Cherbury Camp in Longworth in 1939 by Mr. J. S. P. Bradford is given. This site, some nine acres in area with a maximum diameter of approximately 1,000 feet from north to south, provides ceramic evidence with a date in the first or second decade of the first century A.D. for the construction of the defences. The importance of the site "lies as much in its technical construction and unique location, as in the absence of any comparable example of true multiple hill-fort construction, as distinct from open village, in well over 600 square miles . . ." A map, air-view and four illustrations of the site are given.

Mr. R. L. S. Bruce-Mitford gives an interim report of the excavations of the 14th-century village-site at Seacourt near Wytham. (See also *Berks. Arch. Journ.*, XLIV (1940) 144-5.) It seems that further excavation should provide complete plans of domestic buildings and of the church and the finds should enable the buildings to be dated; the site promises results of great importance for little 14th-15th century pottery has been published and no dated pottery is known for the last threequarters of the 14th century. The Seacourt ceramic types "can be accepted with certainty as not later than the first quarter of the 15th century." An air-view and eight illustrations of the site are given.

Dr. J. G. Milne contributes an article giving transcripts of 24 deeds relating to the Holy Trinity Priory, Wallingford. These muniments form part of the archives of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and came eventually to the college by exchange with the King after the suppression of the priory in 1525. They consist of documents dating from the middle of the 12th century to 1519. Photographs are given of four documents of the 12th century and of the seals of Robert, Abbot of St. Albans (1151-1166), Jocelyn, Bishop of Salisbury (1174-1184) and of Robert Arsic (1170-1173).

A note from the late Major G. W. G. Allen describes, with map and six air-views, the crop-marks seen from the air at Northfield Farm, Long Wittenham.

Mr. C. E. Stevens gives a postscript to the Frilford site (*Oxoniensia*, IV, 1-71) in which he claims that the two Frilford temples belong, the one to the Atrebates, the other to the Dobuni.