CONTENTS

The Lost Arts of Chemistry: Dr. W. D. Richardson .................. 513

The Elizabeth Thompson Science Fund: Professor Charles S. Minot ............ 520

Harvard Exchange of Teachers with Colleges in the Middle West ......... 521

Scientific Notes and News ......... 522

University and Educational News ....... 526

Discussion and Correspondence:—

The Acoustical Engineer: Professor G. W. Stewart. Academic Efficiency: Professor B. B. Brackett. Laboratory Table Tops: Professor Raymond H. Pond. Totemism: A. A. Goldenweiser. Evidence of the Pleistocene Fauna of France: Professor Spencer Trotter ....... 527

Scientific Books:—

Escherich’s Termitenleben auf Ceylon: Professor W. M. Wheeler ............... 530

Scientific Journals and Articles ......... 534

Special Articles:

The Origin of Five Mutations in Eye Color in Drosophila and their Modes of Inheritance: Professor T. H. Morgan. Heredity in Insanity: Dr. A. J. Rosanoff ............... 534

The Texas California Arc of Primary Triangulation: William Bowie ............ 538

The Ithaca Meeting of the Society of American Bacteriologists: Dr. Charles E. Marshall .................. 539

Societies and Academies:—


MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the Editor of SCIENCE, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

THE LOST ARTS OF CHEMISTRY

In addition to chronicling past and present events merely, it pleases the historian from time to time to ascertain, as nearly as he can, by a comparison of present with past conditions and present knowledge and practise with past knowledge and practise, the present condition of mankind of any particular society, in comparison with past conditions. Thus are compared present systems of government with past systems, new religious beliefs with old, modern science with ancient science, present-day arts and manufactures with those of old.

Progress never takes a straight course for any considerable length of time. Nor does it even follow an undulating course in one general direction. But there are advancements and retrogressions, repeated endlessly. And again progress as recorded by history does not represent necessarily the progress of the whole human race. On the contrary, it does not represent even a large part of the human race, but at most an isolated portion of it, and in this isolated portion the progress is recorded not of the whole but of the most advanced individuals only. When we say that the present age is one of great business, scientific and manufacturing or artistic achievements in comparison with the fourteenth century, for example, we mean that a few individuals, very few in fact compared with the total number, have contrived to bring about great results in those fields of human activity. But we must remember at the same time that the majority of indivi-