The Message of Science: Sir Richard Gregory

A Notable Mathematical Gift: Professor G. A. Miller

A New Alaska Base Map

Scientific Events:
Investigations of the U. S. Bureau of Mines on Ozone and Ventilation; The Pueblo Bonito Expedition of the National Geographic Society; The Steele Chemical Laboratory of Dartmouth College; Lectures on Public Hygiene at the University of Pennsylvania; The Lane Medical Lectures of Stanford University; The Toronto Meeting of the American Society of Naturalists.

Scientific Notes and News

University and Educational News

Discussion and Correspondence:

Scientific Books:
Wollaston’s Life of Alfred Newton: Professor T. D. A. Cockerell.

Acoustical Notes: Charles K. Wead.

Special Articles:
The Relation of Soil Fertility to Vitamine Content of Grain: Professor J. F. McClendon and A. C. Henry. Mold Hyphae in Sugar and Soil compared with Root Hairs: Margaret B. Church and Charles Thom.

The American Chemical Society: Dr. Charles L. Parsons.

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THE MESSAGE OF SCIENCE: 1

It is just forty years ago, at the York Meeting in 1881, that a committee was appointed “to arrange for a conference of delegates from scientific societies to be held at the annual meetings of the British Association, with a view to promote the interests of the societies represented by inducing them to undertake definite systematic work on a uniform plan.” The association had been in existence for fifty years before it thus became a bond of union between local scientific societies in order to secure united action with regard to common interests. Throughout the whole period of ninety years it has been concerned with the advancement and diffusion of natural knowledge and its applications. The addresses and papers read before the various sections have dealt with new observations and developments of scientific interest or practical value; and, as in scientific and technical societies generally, questions of professional status and emolument have rarely been discussed. The port of science—whether pure or applied—is free, and a modest yawl can find a berth in it as readily as a splendid merchantman, provided that it has a cargo to discharge. Neither the turmoil of war nor the wester of social unrest has prevented explorers of uncharted seas from crossing the bar and bringing their argosies to the quayside, where fruits and seeds, rich ores and precious stones have been piled in profusion for the creation of wealth, the comforts of life, or the purpose of death, according as they are selected and used.

All that these pioneers of science have asked for is for vessels to be chartered to enable them to make voyages of discovery to

1 Address by Sir Richard Gregory, president of the Conference of Delegates of Corresponding Societies, given at the Edinburgh meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.