Science and Lancaster Institution Annual

Quotations:

Eric Knight Jordan: Professor Albert Guérard.... 327

Scientific Events:

The International Electrotechnical Commission; An Eastern Section of the Seismological Society; Work of the Committee on the Atmosphere and Man; Expeditions of the American Museum; The Daniel Gwlad Elliot Medal. 327

Scientific Notes and News. 330

University and Educational Notes. 333

Discussion and Correspondence:


Quotations:

A British Science News Service. 335

Scientific Books:

Stratton's Astronomical Physics: Dr. Ralph E. Wilson. Campbell's Bats, Mosquitoes and Dollars: Dr. Tracy J. Storer. 336

Special Articles:

Application of the Generic Name of Phyllocoenia: Dr. T. Wayland Vaughan. A Neglected Capillarity Effect: F. M. Denton. 338

The American Society for Experimental Pathology: Dr. E. B. Keumbhaar. 339

Science News. 339

X

Science: A Weekly Journal devoted to the Advancement of Science, edited by J. McKeen Cattell and published every Friday by

The Science Press

Lancaster, Pa. Garrison, N. Y.

New York City: Grand Central Terminal.

Annual Subscription, $6.00. Single Copies, 15 Cts.

Science is the official organ of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Information regarding membership in the Association may be secured from the office of the permanent secretary, in the Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

Entered as second-class matter July 38, 1923, at the Post Office at Lancaster, Pa., under the Act of March 8, 1879.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science

The Intellectual Worker

In an address delivered in New York on December 1, 1925, at the annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Secretary Hoover deplored the backward state of research in pure science in this country and made an earnest plea for greater financial encouragement of that important form of intellectual activity.

It is unfortunately true [he said] that we can claim no such rank in pure science research as that which we enjoy in the field of industrial research. . . . A list of the awards of the Nobel prizes to men of various nationalities reveals the small proportion of first minds that we support. . . . We have in recent years developed our industrial research upon a scale hitherto unparalleled in history. We have an increase in some ten years from one hundred to over five hundred laboratories engaged upon research for applications of known scientific fact and law. These results have been magnificent. But all these applied science laboratories are dependent upon the raw material which flows from the laboratories and men engaged in pure science, and the industrial investigators are the first to demand more support to pure science. . . . The sudden growth of industrial laboratories has in itself endangered pure science research by drafting the personnel of pure science into their ranks, depleting at the same time not only our fundamental research staff, but also our university faculties, and thus to some degree drying the stream of creative men at the source. Compared with other expenditures of far less importance to human welfare, the amount of money annually devoted in the United States to the aid of investigators and investigation is absurdly small. It is less than one tenth what we spend for cosmetics.

Secretary Hoover might well have extended his criticism and comparisons, had the occasion been appropriate, to other fields than that commonly designated by the term science. The fields of history, economics, political science, jurisprudence and philosophy, in all of which the accepted principles of scientific method more or less apply, show an equal paucity of work of high and fundamental character. The average dissertation which is accepted by American universities in history, economics or political science as a part of the requirements for the degree of doctor of philosophy is often appreciably below

1 Papers presented at a general session of the association at Kansas City, on December 31, organized under the auspices of the committee of one hundred on scientific research.
Science 63 (1630), x-340.