ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

By Dr. W. W. CAMPBELL

LICK OBSERVATORY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

The committee on the program for the meeting of the academy has requested me to continue this evening the series of president’s addresses inaugurated two years ago. This I gladly do, as there are several matters which could wisely be spoken of on this occasion; but the need for brevity on my part is made clear by the fact that several medals and prizes are to be awarded after the close of this address.

At our dinner of last year I spoke at length, and I hope with some evidence of deep feeling, about the threatened reduction of financial support for research activities in all our universities, research institutions, learned societies and the research bureaus of the United States Government, and about the resulting state of anxiety on that subject then existing with the members of the faculties and staffs of those organizations. The threatened reductions were made, by essentially all the organizations referred to, and in most cases upon a heroic scale. Clearly there is no need for me to speak again, or at this time, concerning adequate support for research in the domain of the sciences by our government, as the many paragraphs on that subject in my address of one year ago were published in the journal SCIENCE, through the courtesy of Editor Cattell, and for the further reason that in the twelve intervening months the evidences of interest in scientific research within the borders of our country, and likewise in the question of international
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