

SCIENCE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1915

THE ESPECIAL VALUE OF RESEARCH IN
PURE CHEMISTRY¹

CONTENTS

<i>The Especial Value of Research in Pure Chemistry:</i> PROFESSOR MARSTON TAYLOR BOGERT.	737
<i>The Teaching of the History of Science:</i> DR. FREDERICK E. BRASCH	746
<i>The Committee on Policy of the American Association for the Advancement of Science ..</i>	760
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	760
<i>University and Educational News</i>	763
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>Artificial Daylight:</i> M. LUCKIESH. <i>Injections of the Bundle of His:</i> PROFESSOR W. G. MACCALLUM, DR. RUFUS COLE	764
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>	
<i>Chamberlain's Methods in Plant Histology:</i> Tschulok's <i>Pflanzenanatomie:</i> PROFESSOR E. C. JEFFREY. <i>Shufeldt's America's Greatest Problem:</i> PROFESSOR BURT G. WILDER	767
<i>Special Articles:—</i>	
<i>Zygosporcs and Rhizopus for Class Use:</i> DR. A. F. BLAKESLEE. <i>The Germicidal Effect of Freezing and Low Temperatures:</i> DR. C. M. HILLIARD, CHRISTINA TOROSSIAN, RUTH P. STONE	768
<i>The American Association for the Advancement of Science:—</i>	
<i>Section H—Education:</i> PROFESSOR EDWARD K. STRONG, JR.	771

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

MY colleague, Dr. Cattell, having considered the broad topic of the value to a democracy of research in pure science, I welcome the opportunity to take up for a few moments one of the subdivisions of his field, in order to point out somewhat more fully the especial importance of research in chemistry.

Let us, therefore, first pass rapidly in review a few of the contributions which chemistry has made or is now making to the health, happiness and material prosperity of our country, that we may be able more accurately to assess its value to the community, gain a better appreciation of the debt we owe it, and accord to it that position of high honor and dignity which is its just due.

In the reports of the Twelfth Census of the United States it is written that

Probably no science has done so much as chemistry in revealing the hidden possibilities of the wastes and by-products of manufacturers. This science has been the most fruitful agent in the conversion of the refuse of manufacturing operations into products of industrial value. Her **fairy** wand has only to touch the most noisome substances, and the most ethereal essences, the **most** heavenly hues, the most delicious flavors and odors instantly rise as if by magic.

Whether this is a wholly overdrawn picture or not will appear in what follows.

Dealing with the ultimate constituents of our material universe, their combinations and transformations, it is chemistry that

¹ Address delivered on the occasion of the establishment of the Willard Gibbs Chair of Research in Pure Chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh, October 26, 1915.

Science

42 (1091)

Science **42** (1091), 737-772.

ARTICLE TOOLS

<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/42/1091.citation>

PERMISSIONS

<http://www.sciencemag.org/help/reprints-and-permissions>

Use of this article is subject to the [Terms of Service](#)

Science (print ISSN 0036-8075; online ISSN 1095-9203) is published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1200 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005. 2017 © The Authors, some rights reserved; exclusive licensee American Association for the Advancement of Science. No claim to original U.S. Government Works. The title *Science* is a registered trademark of AAAS.