

# SCIENCE

VOL. LXI      JANUARY 2, 1925      No. 1566

## SCIENCE AND SERVICE<sup>1</sup>

### CONTENTS

<i>The American Association for the Advancement of Science:</i>	
<i>Science and Service:</i> DR. CHARLES D. WALCOTT.....	1
<i>The Foundation of the Theory of Algebraic Numbers:</i> PROFESSOR HARRIS HANCOCK.....	5
<i>The Eclipse of January, 1925:</i> PROFESSOR E. W. BROWN .....	10
<i>Scientific Events:</i>	
<i>Opening of the Ramsay Memorial Laboratory; Recommendations for Federal Administrative Reform by American Engineers; Royal Institution Lectures; Work in Forestry .....</i>	12
<i>Scientific Notes and News .....</i>	14
<i>University and Educational Notes.....</i>	17
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:</i>	
<i>The Number of Brothers and Sisters of Selected Individuals:</i> PROFESSOR C. H. DANFORTH. <i>Energy Values of Feeds for Cattle:</i> C. ROBERT MOULTON. <i>The Teaching of Evolution:</i> PROFESSOR R. C. MULLENIX. <i>Perambulating Millipeds:</i> PERCY VIOSCA, JR. ....	17
<i>Scientific Books:</i>	
<i>McDonald on the Intellectual Worker:</i> PROFESSOR WALTER P. TAYLOR .....	20
<i>Special Articles:</i>	
<i>Promising Plant Insecticides:</i> S. MARCOVITCH.....	22
<i>Science News .....</i>	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 18, 1925, at the Post Office at Lancaster, Pa., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

THE service of science to humanity was initiated when the early philosophers began to discover and record the more simple truths of nature. Then, as now, the "sciosophists," defined by David Starr Jordan as "apostles of systematized ignorance," rejected all evidence without attempting to prove or disprove, and condemned the exceptional mind that was compelled by an inner urge to attempt to penetrate into the mists that concealed the unknown.

Through many centuries human thought was confined largely to channels predetermined by the religious and political concepts of the more intelligent. To this privileged group freedom of expression by others was intolerable, and a seeker after truth other than that provided and established by authority was fair game to be hunted down and destroyed. Progress came as an undercurrent of truth that slowly gathered strength and volume, until, like the warm waters of tropical ocean currents penetrating the colder regions, it weakened the congealed crust of ignorance and prejudice, and, combining with the sunshine of scientific research, gradually dispersed systematic opposition to the growing appreciation of natural phenomena and laws.

The story of the onward march of scientific research in quest of truth is not unlike that of the white race in the conquest of America. A few fearless souls penetrated the wilderness and blazed the trails that others might follow; some fell martyrs to their zeal, but more came after; facts were determined, laws established, which in time contributed to the welfare of the race.

Science has made great progress, but its conquest of the unknown and of the unprogressive doctrines of the sciosophists is still far from complete. When we consider the many vital problems that are being discussed and the indifference and limited training of a large proportion of supposedly intelligent people, it seems only well under way. The search for truth and the interpretation of facts and their verification and application must continue, with ever-enlarging conceptions until the ultimate destiny of our race is fulfilled.

Millikan has well said: "The purpose of science is to develop without prejudice or preconception of any kind a knowledge of the facts, the laws and the processes of Nature." The search for truth based on this scientific method is one of the greatest inspirations and incentives to high and thorough endeavor. The

<sup>1</sup> Address of the retiring president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, D. C., December 29, 1924.

# Science

61 (1566)

*Science* 61 (1566), xii-22.

ARTICLE TOOLS

<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/61/1566.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. The title *Science* is a registered trademark of AAAS.

Copyright © 1925 The Authors, some rights reserved; exclusive licensee American Association for the Advancement of Science. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.