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THEOBALD SMITH; INVESTIGATOR AND MAN¹

By Professor SIMON HENRY GAGE
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032

To understand even imperfectly any human being, it is necessary to know something of his heredity and his environment.

Theobald Smith's hereditary endowment came from skilled workers and teachers. Engrained therefore in his very being were the sterling qualities of industry and intellectual appreciation.

He was born in Albany and spent his childhood and early manhood in the state of New York preparing

¹ Address at the Theobald Smith Memorial Session of the American Association for the Advancement of Science before the joint meeting of the Section on Medical Sciences (N) and the Central New York branch of the Society of American Bacteriologists, the president of the association, Dr. E. G. Conklin, presiding. The address was given in the room where ten years before at the dedication of the Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Dr. Smith had lectured on "Immunity, Natural and Acquired." A large portrait of Dr. Smith at the age of 62 was hung on the wall in front of the audience.

for his life-work. In 1884 this began in the Bureau of Animal Industry in Washington, and continued there until 1895. In 1895 he was called to Boston to aid in the State Board of Health and to join the staff of the Harvard Medical School, where he remained until 1915, when he removed to Princeton to assume the directorship of the Department of Animal Pathology of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. In this position he remained as director and emeritus director to the end of his life in 1934.

Theobald Smith had his beginning and entire career of seventy-five years in one of the most stirring periods in human history, 1859-1934.

As the study of astronomy had taken the material universe out of the maze of superstition and made the earth, not the center of the universe, but only a minor part of it, so organic evolution had put living things

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