

ence. The leading business bodies of Baltimore and the farmers' organizations throughout the state passed resolutions to the same effect. No subject before the Maryland legislature this past winter occasioned such widespread interest.

The Maryland Geological Survey began highway work ten years ago with the establishment of a highway division and has gradually developed the public interest that has made possible the present progressive highway movement in that state. Four years ago the State Aid Highway Law was passed and two years later an appropriation was made for commencing the construction of the Baltimore-Washington road under the Geological Survey. This is the first instance on record where a state geological survey has been entrusted with a great public work of this character and it is a matter of no small interest that a bureau which has been successfully maintaining its scientific work has at the same time secured the support of the people of the state in the largest undertaking in its history.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF ADULTERATION

THE general committee of organization of the First International Congress for the Repression of Adulteration of Alimentary and Pharmaceutical Products, to which attention was called in your issue of March 20, 1908, has published the following additional items respecting the work of the congress:

The committee particularly asks from chemists a report of general interest on any subject of their own choice relating to the principal topic of the congress or a report treating of special questions entering into the restricted elements of one of the eight sections of the congress.

The committee further asks of all manufacturers and dealers definite notes indicating, in the group of foods or drugs which most specially interest them: first, the frauds and adulterations of which they have most to complain; second, the measures of protection they ask for; third, criticisms of the laws and regulations in force; fourth, the additions, viz., coloring matters, preserving agents, etc., which

they ask to be authorized for their products or which they complain of seeing authorized.

The committee further asks that there be forwarded as soon as possible the titles of papers which are to be sent from the United States, the whole paper or abstract thereof to follow later. Inasmuch as the congress is fixed to begin on the eighth of September, it is important that American contributors do not delay in preparing the reports they wish to present. I further urge all who are intending to prepare papers for the congress to send me their titles without delay in order that they may be transmitted to the general committee.

The general committee also gives notice that the exhibition of pure and adulterated foods and drugs which it was intended to prepare has been postponed on account of the short time intervening before the opening of the congress.

I extend a second invitation to American chemists, manufacturers and dealers to subscribe to the congress, and will gladly undertake to forward such subscriptions, if sent to me at Washington. As before stated, the subscription price for an ordinary member is \$4 and for a donating member \$20. I am pleased to add that I have already received and forwarded to Geneva a goodly number of subscriptions of American members.

H. W. WILEY,

*President of the American committee
and vice-president of the congress*

CORRESPONDENCE IN REGARD TO THE PENSIONING OF WIDOWS OF PROFESSORS BY THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TEACHING

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
DIVISION OF

PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
GARRISON-ON-HUDSON, N. Y.,

March 21, 1908

PRESIDENT HENRY S. PRITCHETT, LL.D.,

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, New York City

DEAR DR. PRITCHETT:

May I venture to ask whether Provision (6) under the rules adopted for the granting of normal retiring allowances by the Carnegie

Foundation applies to all cases in accepted institutions? It reads: "Any person who has been for ten years the wife of a professor in actual service may receive during her widowhood one half of the allowance to which her husband would have been entitled." This provision might mean that all widows of this class would receive the retiring allowance on proper application, or it might mean that the allowance may, or may not, be granted after recommendation of the president of the institution concerned and consideration of the merits of the professor and the needs of his widow. I fear that the latter interpretation is correct, but I trust not, as it would seriously interfere with the position of the Carnegie Foundation as an agency for promoting the dignity and honor of the teaching profession.

In your annual reports you have wisely emphasized the fact that the Carnegie Foundation is not a charity, but an educational agency. You say: "No body of men is wise enough to administer a system of pensions upon considerations of individual merit only, without a strong probability that the administration will in the end degenerate." Does this not apply to pensions for widows, as well as to annuities? It appears to me that most healthy-minded men are more concerned with provision for their families in case of disablement or death than with anxiety as to their own old age. I sympathize with those who take out life insurance, not with those who buy annuities, and it gives me no satisfaction to be put by force of circumstance into the latter class. I should like to exchange my annuity for life insurance of equal value, and I believe that this would be the nearly unanimous preference of my colleagues.

The Carnegie Foundation adds substantially to the incomes of accepted universities and colleges, but it does not greatly assist the individual professor. The provision for retirement for age does not help at all in institutions that already had a pension system; in other accepted institutions the salaries will be adjusted with reference to the pension, and the only individuals who benefit are some of the older men in institutions without a pension system for whom the benefit is retroactive.

Apart from this group, the benefit to the individual—and only until readjustment of salaries takes place—is confined to the length of service provision, the wisdom of which is doubtful, and the widow's pension, which only applies at the age when it is least needed, and if administered as a charity would in the long run be, as you say, "sure to harm rather than to help the teacher and the cause of education."

If the professor must be the *Versuchstier* of paternalism, is not the German system—by which he receives his salary for life, being relieved from service if disabled by illness or old age, and his widow and each of his minor children receive a pension—the best plan both for the professor and for the university? And, if so, could not the Carnegie Foundation bring about this system by offering endowments to those institutions that would adopt it?

May I print in SCIENCE this letter and your reply? Very truly yours,

J. MCK. CATTELL

Office of the
President

THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TEACHING
576 Fifth Avenue
New York

March 24, 1908

DEAR PROFESSOR CATTELL:

Your letter of March 21 I can answer with more definiteness after next Tuesday, when the matter of widow's pensions is likely to be put upon a completely definite basis. I will, therefore, delay my answer until next week, when I will endeavor to answer your questions completely. Very sincerely yours,

HENRY S. PRITCHETT

Professor J. McKeen Cattell,
Garrison-on-Hudson,
New York

Office of the
President

THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TEACHING
576 Fifth Avenue
New York

April 13, 1908

DEAR PROFESSOR CATTELL:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your

letter of March 21, the answer to which has been delayed by an unusual pressure of work.

As you state in your letter, our rule relative to the widow of a professor does not now definitely assure her of a pension. The executive committee has, however, voted to recommend to the trustees that this rule be amended by changing the word "may" to "shall." I have no question that this action will be taken.

I regret that it seems to you that the Carnegie Foundation does not assist the individual professor, but adds to the income of universities. I do not think this view justified, nor is it one which the foundation seeks to promote. We are just issuing a bulletin giving the financial status of the American professor and making clear the fact that it is the effort of this agency not only to bring to the teacher's profession a greater security, but, so far as it can, to assist in giving a more adequate salary. I believe that this will be its effect.

The provision for permitting a retiring allowance to be gained upon length of service seems also to us to add much to the value of the retiring allowance system. Under this provision a professor may, at the end of twenty-five years, retire on a stated proportion of his salary, the proportion increasing with each year of service. It is not likely that many professors will avail themselves of this provision. The man whose heart is in his teaching will not wish to give it up until a much later period. There are, however, teachers to whom this provision will be specially attractive, and that is to those who desire to spend the remainder of their active lives in scholarly research or literary work rather than in teaching. I can imagine no better thing for an institution of learning than to have about it a group of men who are engaged in active research and who are not burdened with the load of teaching which falls to most American teachers. In this way the retiring allowance will contribute directly to research.

A retiring allowance system, to be effective in the case of a profession like that of teaching, ought to do at least three things: (1)

furnish a temporary salary in case of illness; (2) guarantee a fair proportion of the active pay as a retiring salary upon the completion of a certain service or upon arriving at a certain age; (3) guarantee a pension to the widow of a professor who has himself earned a retiring allowance. The system of retiring allowances established by the Carnegie Foundation does all these things and I can not but believe that to give this security to the teacher's calling will add to its dignity and attract to it good men. Furthermore, I am sure that these results will be brought about without a diminution of salaries which could otherwise be obtained. Yours sincerely,

HENRY S. PRITCHETT

Professor J. McKeen Cattell,
Garrison-on-Hudson,
New York

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
DIVISION OF
PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
GARRISON-ON-HUDSON, N. Y.,

April 17, 1908

PRESIDENT HENRY S. PRITCHETT, LL.D.,

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, New York City

DEAR DR. PRITCHETT:

I learn with much pleasure of the action of the executive committee of the Carnegie Foundation in recommending that the pensions of widows shall hereafter be a matter of right and not of charity, and I am gratified if my letter had something to do with this. I trust that it will be followed by a similar provision in the case of disability. You say in your letter that the foundation furnishes a temporary salary in case of illness. This, however, is not as yet a matter of right and contract, but of favor; and, as it now stands, the dangers appear to more than counterbalance the advantage to certain individuals. We need especially insurance against disability, as this is not provided, as are life insurance and annuities, by commercial enterprise. It is of course his wife and children, not himself, which make disability such a serious matter to the professor. His capital is his ability and his

education. If it is lost as a direct consequence of attendance to his duties, we have the best warrant for special provision.

The whole question of enforced pensions is endlessly complicated, the conflict between individualism and socialism being the most pressing of our civilization. It seems self-evident that if part of the salary of a professor is paid in the form of an old-age annuity, he must receive so much less salary at the time. It costs the same to pay a professor \$3,500 a year, or \$3,000 plus an annuity, the annual expense of which is \$500. The question is which is better for the professor and for society. The Carnegie Foundation descending, as it were, suddenly from heaven is certainly a windfall for a professor in an institution that did not have a pension system—perhaps he would like it still better if he were paid the cash value of his annuity, which in some cases would be as much as \$20,000. The foundation is also a godsend to the college president, the income of whose institution is generously augmented.

But these present gains to the individual may obscure our appreciation of what will happen twenty years hence. Our educational system will be richer by the income of \$15,000,000; but will the professor be better off because part of his salary is paid in the form of an enforced annuity? There are obvious advantages to the individual, to the institution and to society; but there are also difficulties and dangers. If we are to have an extension of paternalism, it appears that it should apply first to children and to the ignorant, rather than to university professors. Economic socialism may be inevitable and even desirable, but we must try to maintain intellectual and moral individualism. If we make an economic caste of university professors and put it under the care of a board of university presidents, the outcome may be a deadening of intellectual vigor and moral freedom in the university.

In accordance with your kind permission I shall print this correspondence in *SCIENCE*.

Very truly yours,

J. McK. CATTELL

ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN AUSTRIA

WE learn from the London *Times* that the professorial senate of Vienna University has issued a pronouncement in regard to the case of Professor Wahrmund, of Innsbruck, which deals with the questions whether a professor of canon law can be deprived of his chair in the juridical faculty of a state university if he comes into conflict with the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church, and whether it is admissible that the church should exercise control over the agreement of his teachings with her doctrine. It holds that if the principle that the teachings of a professor must coincide with religious doctrine were to be recognized, no department of human knowledge would remain unaffected, since all departments of knowledge have some bearing upon religious doctrine, and concludes that, inasmuch as a mere adroit attempt to influence the exercise of the right of the state or superintend the universities might in future introduce ecclesiastical influences into the management of the universities, the academic senate considers "inflexible resistance to efforts of this kind, however they may be made, to be a necessity enjoined by the vital principles of science." Professor Wahrmund has been requested by his colleagues of Innsbruck University to suspend his lectures for the time being, lest academic disturbances necessitate premature closing of the university.

PREDATORY POLITICS IN OKLAHOMA

MANY of our state universities and state educational systems have passed through a period of predatory politics. Fortunately, the good sense of the people must in the end prevail, and the more important the institution, the less danger is there from the methods of the ward politician. We regret that it is now the fate of the new state of Oklahoma to suffer disgrace in the hands of its politicians. Every republican has been deposed by the democrats from the head of the state institutions, including the University of Oklahoma, the College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, the University Preparatory School, the Central State Normal School, the Northwest-