

I need not say that an X-ray picture of this third arm as seen on the fluorescent screen would be an interesting subject of study. It would not be difficult to so arrange the apparatus that the shadow of the medium's entire body could be obtained. The switch for operating the coil should be placed within reach of the observer on the top of the cabinet, so that the flood of rays need only be turned on when something is going on worth investigating. In this way no possible injury could result.

At the first sitting at which the illumination of the floor was tried Eusapia complained of this light, which appeared to be quite accidental. I accordingly constructed a grill of vertical strips of thin wood, painted black. The floor of the cabinet was covered with this. From her position in front Eusapia could not have seen the light on account of the grill, while the observer above, looking down directly between the strips, could see the illuminated floor without difficulty. The object of illuminating the floor was of course to obtain a luminous background against which moving objects could be seen. It proved to be a very effective way of investigating cabinet phenomena.

On two occasions the black object which appeared was pointed, on the third, when the table was seized it was blunt and rounded. Eusapia had pushed her chair back until her back was against the curtain, and I doubt if what I saw was the "third arm"! On the occasion when I held one of Eusapia's hands, nothing was disturbed in the cabinet, but some very fine levitations occurred, in a brilliant light, and I could not only see between the medium's knees and the legs of the table, but passed my other hand between them and her skirts. I felt very positive that the legs of the table were free from contact with any part of her person.

The proper system of investigation, in my opinion, is the one outlined. Whenever I saw anything going on in the cabinet, I sent an electric signal to seance room, so that particular pains could be taken by the persons

holding her hands, to see whether the contact had been broken at the moment.

If the phenomena are genuine it can be proved by the X-rays, I think, *and in no other way*. Madam Palladino need have no fear of the X-ray test, if the thing seen in the cabinet is a supernormal third arm. If the sittings had not been suddenly terminated, I feel certain that at the next one we should have had a complete explanation of how the disturbance in the cabinet was created. I am quite ready at any time to aid Madam Palladino in establishing the genuineness of her supernormal powers by means of the X-rays.

R. W. Wood

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#### THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION

THE following letter has been addressed to the trustees of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching:

COLUMBIA, Mo.,  
March 9, 1910.

To the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

*Gentlemen:* At a largely attended meeting of members of the faculties of the University of Missouri it was voted that the following communication be addressed to your board as a body, and to its individual members:

The purpose of the foundation of which you are the administrators, as set forth in the expressions of the founder and in subsequent official statements of the trustees, are "to serve the cause of higher education by advancing and dignifying the profession of the teacher in higher institutions of learning," especially with a view of rendering that profession attractive to increasing number of able men. Through the desire of many institutions to enjoy the benefits of the foundation, it has come to be also an important instrumentality for influencing and coordinating the educational policy of a considerable number of American universities and colleges. It is evident that these functions, of great potential usefulness, can in the long run be successfully performed only if the management of the foundation retains the confidence and sympathy of university officials and of the general body of university teachers. Though the foundation may do something to increase the material comfort in old age of some

members of the teaching profession, it can not accomplish its announced primary purpose unless its activities are such as, in the opinion of the majority of university teachers, actually tend to advance and dignify their profession. And it can not long retain the beneficial influence which it may properly exercise over the policies of institutions, unless their faculties and governing boards continue to believe that the foundation will fulfill the promises implied in its rules.

Certain recent acts of the foundation appear to us to be not only inequitable in themselves but also to be likely to destroy the confidence of university teachers and university boards in the stability of the foundation's policy, in the trustworthiness of its announcements, and in the general tendency of its work to render the profession more attractive to young men of independent spirit and high ability. While we do not feel called upon to express any opinion concerning the intrinsic desirability of a general and unqualified system of length-of-service pensions, we consider the abrupt abolition of such a system, without notice, after individuals and institutions have for four years been basing their acts upon the foundation's announcement that it would grant such pensions, to be unfair to those directly affected and provocative of indignation in nearly all teachers not directly affected. We, therefore, respectfully request that your board, as early as may be convenient, reconsider its action upon this matter. We believe, also, that further legislation is desirable, with a view to reassuring the academic public against the anticipation of other sudden and radical changes of the foundation's policy, and with a view to promoting a better and more sympathetic understanding between the management of the foundation and the general body of teachers.

While we do not desire to suggest the details of the legislation to be adopted, we are of the opinion that some such measures as the following would make for the advancement of the teaching profession, and therefore for the realization of the purposes of the foundation:

1. The adoption by your board of such supplementary legislation as shall effectually safeguard the interests of those who have, during the past four years, been influenced in the conduct of their affairs by expectations aroused by the old service-pension rule.

2. The adoption of a new rule, whereby no essential changes may be made in any of the fundamental rules of the foundation without several

years' notice, duly promulgated to all of the institutions upon the accepted list.

3. The inclusion in the membership of the board of trustees of representatives of the teaching branch of the profession.

All of which is submitted to your favorable consideration.

C. STUART GAGER,  
W. I. DAUMFORD,  
H. B. SHAW,  
*Committee*

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR SVANTE ARRHENIUS, of Stockholm, has been appointed Silliman lecturer at Yale University.

DR. GEORGE E. HALE, director of the Mount Wilson Solar Observatory, has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Institution, London.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY will confer honorary degrees this term on Sir Oliver Lodge, F.R.S., principal of the University of Birmingham, and Professor W. H. Perkin, F.R.S., professor of organic chemistry in the Victoria University of Manchester.

At the meeting of the Royal Society on May 5 the following candidates for fellowship were elected into the society: Mr. J. Barcroft, Professor G. C. Bourne, Professor A. P. Coleman, Dr. F. A. Dixey, Dr. L. N. G. Filon, Mr. A. Fowler, Dr. A. E. Garrod, Mr. G. H. Hardy, Dr. J. A. Harker, Professor J. T. Hewitt, Professor B. Hopkinson, Dr. A. Lapworth, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir W. B. Leishman, Mr. H. G. Plimmer and Mr. F. Soddy.

At a meeting of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, held on May 11, it was voted to award the Rumford premium to Charles Gordon Curtis "for his improvements in the utilization of heat as work in the steam-turbine."

DR. F. L. CHASE has been appointed acting director of the Yale Observatory.

PROFESSOR FREDERIC P. GORHAM, of the biological department of Brown University, has been appointed by the commissioners of shell fisheries of the state of Rhode Island to make a study of the distribution of the sewage in