

# SCIENCE

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1917

## CONTENTS

<i>The Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science:—</i>	
<i>Some of the Scientific Problems and Duties at our Doors: DR. J. C. BRANNER .....</i>	417
<i>Scientific Events:—</i>	
<i>The Use of Primitive Art in Textiles; Research Work of the Leander McCormick Observatory; The Engineering Committee of the National Research Council; Medical Students and the War .....</i>	424
<i>Scientific Notes and News .....</i>	427
<i>University and Educational News .....</i>	430
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>Want of Adaptation to the Time of the Printing Press: CHARLES ROBERTSON. Fundamental Conceptions of Modern Mathematics: ROBERT P. RICHARDSON AND EDWARD H. LANDIS .....</i>	431
<i>Quotations:—</i>	
<i>Scientific Snobbery .....</i>	433
<i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences: PROFESSOR EDWIN BIDWELL WILSON .....</i>	435
<i>Special Articles:—</i>	
<i>A Quantitative Method of ascertaining the Mechanism of Growth and of Inhibition of Growth and Dormant Buds: DR. JACQUES LOEB .....</i>	436
<i>Societies and Academies:—</i>	
<i>The Botanical Society of Washington: DR. H. L. SHANTZ. The Anthropological Society of Washington: FRANCES DENSMORE .....</i>	439

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

## SOME OF THE SCIENTIFIC PROBLEMS AND DUTIES AT OUR DOORS<sup>1</sup>

WE are here at the second meeting of a new endeavor on the part of the American Association to foster an interest in scientific work and in scientific research, and it is sincerely hoped that we shall worthily do for and in this portion of our country what the parent association has done for the country at large; and what the British Association has so long been doing for Great Britain. It is for us not only to keep alive the interest in the good work of the general organization, but to widen its scope, to extend its influence and to bring it to a higher degree of usefulness.

Our national association has been a power for good in this country from its inception in 1848, for it has helped to awaken and has kept alive a widespread interest in science throughout our country, and it has brought together and kept in touch with each other persons interested in the various branches of science.

Since 1831 the British Association for the Advancement of Science has been a powerful and even a remarkable agency in the encouragement of local workers in Great Britain, and in the quickening of interest in every branch of science. But while the British Association has of late years visited Australia, Canada and South Africa, from the outset most of its activities have been confined to England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland, an area (121,112 sq. ms.) smaller than that of the state of

<sup>1</sup> Presidential address before the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Stanford University, California, April 5, 1917.