

SCIENCE

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CONTENTS

<i>The Sources of Nervous Activity</i> : PROFESSOR G. H. PARKER	619
<i>An Address to the Graduating Class of the Harvard Medical School</i> : PROFESSOR W. T. COUNCILMAN	626
<i>National Service on the Part of Zoologists and Zoological Laboratories</i>	627
<i>Scientific Events:—</i>	
<i>Suspension of the Kew Bulletin; Daylight Saving; The Smithsonian Station for the Study of Solar Radiation; The Aquarium of the California Academy of Sciences</i>	630
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	632
<i>University and Educational News</i>	635
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>An Institute for the History of Science:</i> BERT RUSSELL. <i>A Cure for Shock?</i> G. V. N. D.	635
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>	
<i>Howard, Dyar and Knab on the Mosquitoes of North and Central America</i> : PROFESSOR T. D. A. COCKERELL	637
<i>Notes on Meteorology and Climatology</i> : DR. CHARLES F. BROOKS	639
<i>Special Articles:—</i>	
<i>The Distribution of Endemic Species in New Zealand</i> : PROFESSOR HUGO DE VRIES.	641

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

THE SOURCES OF NERVOUS ACTIVITY¹

I CAN not proceed with what I have to say without speaking first a word of congratulation and thanks to those whose material and intellectual resources have made the Scripps Institution for Biological Research an actuality. Biologists the world over are coming to be more and more dependent for their training and inspiration upon just such establishments as this. The introduction into our institutions of learning of the laboratory with its unique and novel educational methods was indeed a vast step in modern progress, but it can be said in no sense to have rendered superfluous the laboratory designed for pure research. This, from the time of Davy and Faraday, has retained its original function unimpaired and has been the means of directing mankind to many of his most profitable lines of endeavor. Such research institutions, which by a happy concurrence of events have been much on the increase of recent years, must always remain the highest shrines of science. They originate, they conserve, they hand on; and all this is done without the interference of the pedagogue; in other words, their scholarship, to use that term in its best sense, is of the highest order. In them the true spirit of science is better exemplified than in any other type of institution that we possess. It is therefore a time for congratulation when the Scripps Laboratory can open its doors more widely than ever before to those who have reason to make use of its abundance.

It has been in such institutions as this

¹ A dedicatory address delivered August 9, 1916, at the Scripps Institution for Biological Research of the University of California.