

SCIENCE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Advancement of Science, publishing the official notices and proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, edited by J. McKeen Cattell and published every Friday by

THE SCIENCE PRESS

11 Liberty St., Utica, N. Y. Garrison, N. Y.

New York City: Grand Central Terminal

Single Copies, 15 Cts.

Annual Subscription, \$6.00

Entered as second-class matter January 21, 1922, at the Post Office at Utica, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOL. LV, FEBRUARY 10, 1922 No. 1415

The American Association for the Advancement of Science:

The Past and the Future of the Medical Sciences in the United States: PROFESSOR

JOSEPH ERLANGER 135

Subsidy Funds for Mathematical Projects:

PROFESSOR H. E. SLAUGHT 146

Scientific Events:

British Research on Cement; The Gorgas Memorial Institute; The Teaching of Evolution in the Kentucky Schools; Cardinal Dougherty on Vivisection 148

Scientific Notes and News 150

University and Educational Notes 154

Discussion and Correspondence:

Professor Sudhoff's Paracelsus: DR. F. H. GARRISON. *The Value of Tilth:* DR. JEROME ALEXANDER. *Casts of Fossil Vertebrates at Stuttgart:* DR. W. D. MATTHEW. *The Ray Society:* DR. W. T. CALMAN 155

Quotations:

The New Chemistry 157

Special Articles:

A Convenient Method of Determining the Brightness of Luminescence: PROFESSOR E. L. NICHOLS 157

The American Society of Zoologists: DR. W. C. ALLEE 159

THE PAST AND THE FUTURE OF THE MEDICAL SCIENCES IN THE UNITED STATES¹

AT the 1919 meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in St. Louis, the association adopted a new constitution which included among other modifications a change in the name of this section from "Physiology and Experimental Medicine" to "Medical Sciences." In the same year, the National Research Council of the United States in effecting its "permanent organization" on a peace time basis changed the name of its "Medical Division" to "Division of the Medical Sciences." Thus in a single year the term "Medicine" disappears as the substantive from the titles of what may fairly be regarded as the two most important organizations on the continent whose main function it is to further the interests of science in general and to stimulate research, to yield up its primary position to one secondary in importance to the term science. There can be no doubt but that these changed designations are indicative of a changed attitude in the United States toward medicine as a science, and it therefore seemed fitting that the first chairman of the section thus newly designated upon retiring from office should essay an analysis of the factors that seem to him to be responsible for the change, in an effort to ascertain the significance of the implied trend. An additional reason for selecting this general topic for discussion is the rather unusual and intimate insight into the conditions at present prevailing in the departments of the medical sciences in the United States which the speaker was enabled to gain through his connection with a study of the supply of assistants in pre-

¹ Address of the vice-president and chairman of Section N—Medical Sciences, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Toronto, December, 1921.