

AN INTERCHANGEABLE TYPEWRITER

ON page 477 of the May 7, 1926, issue of SCIENCE a correspondent has visions of a typewriter that will be able to reproduce mathematical symbols, exponents, etc., necessitating two shift keys, and suggests that some typewriter company build such a machine.

Perhaps he and other readers have not seen the mathematical Hammond typewriter, holding 120 characters, numbers and letters (capitals and lower case, as on other typewriters), including useful Greek characters. In addition, a variable spacing device may be found very useful for condensed typing.

This make is an interchangeable type machine and changes may be made instantly to others, as foreign language, chemical, medical, by substituting another shuttle. It has been on the market for a very long time (though the mathematical device is comparatively recent) and I believe the Hammond antedates all the present standard makes by many years, an old model having been used personally by Woodrow Wilson as a student and during his presidential term.

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A DENOMINATIONAL COLLEGE AND
EVOLUTION

A DENOMINATIONAL college supported by one of our Protestant churches in Texas was in search of a man to fill the chair of biology, and the following correspondence passed between the president and a man holding a Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago:

My dear Dr. ———:

I have your very kind favor of March 13th. I am glad to hear from you. I have given your application very careful consideration.

I wish information from you on the following: (1) What do you believe and teach in regard to the origin of man? (2) Do you sincerely believe the Old and New Testaments to be the word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice? (3) Would you obligate yourself while a member of this faculty not to teach anything that is opposed to any doctrine of the standards of the Presbyterian Church?

The Board of Trustees will require definite answers on these questions before electing any man to the Chair of Biology; therefore it is necessary for us to get very definite information along this line before we can proceed at all.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest possible convenience, I remain

Yours most cordially,

_____, President.

Dear President ———:

My answers to your questions are as follows: No. 1. Being a Christian I can not be true to my belief and not teach the truth as I see it. Being a scientist, with all the evidence at hand, I can not but believe in evolution. Man being an animal is governed by the same physiological laws and environmental stimuli as the lower animals. I can not see how any student of the biological sciences, after making a study of life as exemplified in man and the lower animals with their perfect, delicate structures and wonderful adaptations to their environment, can do otherwise than see in and through it all the directing hand of God.

No. 2. I sincerely believe the Old and New Testaments to be the word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

No. 3. I would obligate myself while a member of your faculty not to teach anything that is opposed to any doctrine of the standards of the Presbyterian Church.

Sincerely,

_____,
Professor of Biology

My dear Dr. ———:

Your favor of March 27th to hand.

I am not sure as to what you really mean in your answer concerning the origin of man; neither do I understand fully and clearly your position on the subject of evolution. I do not know whether you really believe in evolution in the most thorough meaning of the word, or whether you believe more in development.

I do not care to do more than simply get correctly your view of the origin of man and your position on evolution as a theory. If you do not object, I should be glad to have an additional statement from you in regard to this matter. I am willing to say that I have been considering most favorably your application, and want to deal with it with everything clearly before me.

Hoping to hear from you, I remain, with best wishes,

Yours most cordially,

_____, President.

Dear President ———:

In answer to your last letter I wish first to say that I am a theistic evolutionist. I believe in evolution as a development, but not as a development produced by chance but by the directing hand of God. I believe that the animals of to-day have been developed by evolution from preexisting, but now extinct, animals and that man is no exception. Therefore, I do not believe that man has evolved from any of the anthropoid apes one sees in our zoological gardens. He has evolved along a line of ancestors predestined to culminate in man as we see him to-day. I do not believe in the theory of "Special Creation."

Sincerely,

_____,
Professor of Biology