

secondly, after all this work has been done, the color differences detectable by the eye are not always sufficiently small to be of value in the investigation. The fundamental need, a method of greater sensitivity, remains.

Such was the case in the Cromwell problem when a timely advertisement in *SCIENCE* called the writer's attention to the color photometer. In order to test the applicability of the instrument to the study of the shales in question, the writer submitted samples of shale powders passing the one sixteenth millimeter screen to the dealer for trial tests. The results agreed so well with certain chemical determinations that the writer believes that he is warranted in suggesting the use of the color photometer in other investigations. When the investigation of the Cromwell shales is completed, it is hoped that the application of quantitative color data to petrographic research will be demonstrated conclusively. As stated in the beginning, the purpose of this brief paper is merely to make better known a color-determining device applicable to liquids, powders and massive solids, both heterogeneous and homogeneous, capable of giving quantitative data which can be presented graphically. Such an instrument may prove of great value in other geologic problems such as those dealing with changing environments under which sedimentary beds have been deposited, color changes produced in rocks during metamorphism, and in other types of investigation. The color of mineral streaks can now be placed on a quantitative basis. Doubtless, other applications will suggest themselves to the reader.

OLIVER R. GRAWE

MACKAY SCHOOL OF MINES,
RENO, NEVADA

A NEW FUNDAMENTALIST STRONGHOLD

"THE Des Moines University, Des Moines, Iowa, is now the property of the Baptist Bible Union of North America . . . A President has not been elected, but in the meantime the Board of Trustees announce that no one will be retained on the faculty who is not a Christian in the sense of having been born again . . . Some professors will teach no longer in the university because their views are decidedly modernistic . . . No professor will be retained who believes in evolution, or who does not accept the Bible as the infallible word of God . . . The highest educational standards will be maintained . . . Des Moines University will teach the supernaturalism of Christianity as opposed to the naturalism of modernism which is prevalent to-day."

The above, taken from a publication of the Baptist Bible Union, is published because the situation should

be thoroughly understood by scientific men. Twenty of the faculty, including two deans, have resigned. The writer, who a year ago accepted a two-year contract as professor of biology, with the promise of freedom in the teaching of evolution is among those leaving.

N. M. GRIER

HATHAWAY PARK,
LEBANON, PA.

QUOTATIONS

STEEL TURNS TO RESEARCH

SCIENCE is to work for the United States Steel Corporation. To be sure, the greatest organization of its kind in the world has long had its laboratories, but it has been their main function to make more or less routine analyses and to control the processes whereby ore is converted into hundreds of products ranging from wire to girders. No startling discovery in the chemistry of iron and steel stands to their credit. The corporation has made its greatest technical strides in engineering—in lowering production costs, in introducing new machinery, in increasing tonnage. Convinced, no doubt, by the example of other large industrial organizations and above all by Sir Robert Hadfield, of Sheffield, and the great German ironmongers, the United States Steel Corporation has decided to create a department of research and technology under the direction of Dr. John Johnston, of Yale, a scientist ably qualified by technical education and experience to explore a field in which scientific and industrial honors are to be won.

Judge Gary's announcement of what his board of directors must have regarded as a daring innovation is phrased with characteristic but guarded optimism. The finance committee is to keep an eye on the research laboratory. While the corporation "has no money to waste intentionally," Judge Gary comments, "we have money to expend if necessary." Miracles are not to follow the rubbing of the lamp of science by a chemical Aladdin. "We do not expect you can go along at a very rapid rate to begin with, or, perhaps, at any time, but we will have patience, as you must all have patience."

Some research is better than none, particularly if the spirit in which it is conducted is that of the university. How successful the new department of research is destined to be must depend largely on the policy adopted. Such experienced directors of research laboratories as Dr. W. R. Whitney, of the General Electric Company, and Dr. C. Kenneth-Mees, of the Eastman Kodak Company, have argued for an absolutely free hand. Money-making must not infect the laboratory. Paradoxically, the most money is