

SCIENCE

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RELATIONS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY¹

THE advancement of science, for which both the National Academy and the American Association stands, has, in the last century, come to represent a great profession of many branches. The number of professional scientists has increased very remarkably in the last half-century in our country, and it continues to increase at an accelerated rate. Science is becoming recognized as one of the important professions. A young man may now look forward with assurance to a professional career in science.

The new science profession embraces both research and teaching, the securing of new knowledge and the distribution of knowledge that has already been secured. The two are obviously closely allied, but they represent different aspects of the advancement of science, both of which are necessary. Scientific research includes investigations of both the "pure" and the "applied" kinds and these also represent different aspects of the same general endeavor, although they are not readily separated when one attempts a categorical classification. And science teaching embraces many kinds of work; from elementary instruction to the guidance of candidates for the doctor's degree of a university, from special consultation to the giving of public lectures, from the writing of popular stories on science subjects to the preparation and editing of technical contributions in the several special branches.

Coordinate with the development of this complex professional field has developed an increasing need for the organization of scientists, which has been met by the formation of many special societies, each aiming to hasten the advance of science along a particular line or group of related lines. These are devoted to the advancement of the sciences rather than to the advancement of science. Their journals and their meetings are of and for specialists.

Before the advent of these societies mathematics and the natural sciences had their general organizations in the National Academy, the American Association, the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy and a number of state academies. Their meetings tended to bring together specialists

¹ Address given at the dinner of the National Academy of Sciences, at Urbana, Ill., October 19, 1927.

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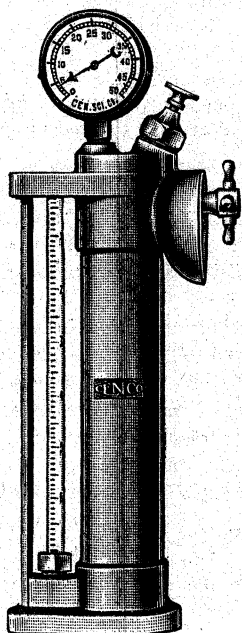
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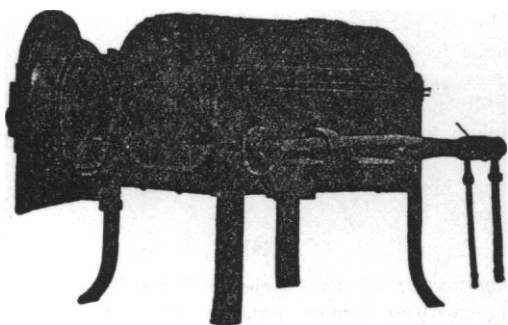
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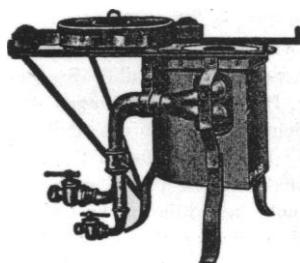
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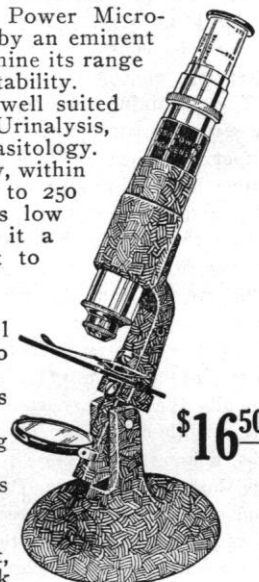
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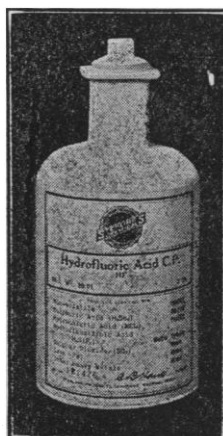
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