

# SCIENCE

VOL. LXVII

MARCH 16, 1928

No. 1733

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SCIENCE: A Weekly Journal devoted to the Advancement of Science, edited by J. McKeen Cattell and published every Friday by

## THE SCIENCE PRESS

New York City: Grand Central Terminal.  
Lancaster, Pa. Garrison, N. Y.  
Annual Subscription, \$6.00. Single Copies, 15 Cts.

SCIENCE is the official organ of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Information regarding membership in the Association may be secured from the office of the permanent secretary, in the Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

Entered as second-class matter July 18, 1923, at the Post Office at Lancaster, Pa., under the Act of March 8, 1879.

## SCIENCE AND THE NEWSPAPERS<sup>1</sup>

WHAT I bring this evening is a joint product. My partner-in-production is E. W. Scripps, the chief designer and builder of the Scripps-Howard newspaper enterprises. Of the great wealth gained by these enterprises Mr. Scripps saw fit to invest before his death a portion in such scientific ventures as the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at La Jolla, California, the Scripps Foundation for Research in Problems of Population at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, and Science Service, Washington, D. C. The partnership lasted during the nineteen years of my incumbency of the directorship of the institution at La Jolla. Its purpose was to devote as many hours per week as possible to the personal discussion of all the problems humankind hath ever encountered or is likely ever to encounter—such having been the spiritual appetite of the senior partner.

## THE NEWSPAPERS

By the popularization of science is understood in this address the promotion among people generally of that devotion to truth which is basic among the few people whose professional career is the pursuit of truth through scientific research. The scattering abroad of natural knowledge discovered by such research is regarded more in the capacity of that knowledge to promote devotion to truth than for any of the other uses to which such knowledge may be put.

To the making of our civilization many factors have contributed. Probably no two persons would agree on a list of the most important of these factors, or on a valuation of the different factors. But all would agree that among the foremost in influence are science and journalism. No phase of our life escapes the influence of both. From matches and beads to the ministry and birth-control nothing is out of reach of the penetrating gaze of science or the clatter and yell of the public press.

If evidence is wanted of the power of these factors, all that is necessary is to start something of major interest to the community. Launch a world war, or a world-wide health campaign, and note the instant and insistent appeal of the enterprise to both factors. Modern life depends vitally on both; yet its estimates

<sup>1</sup> Address at a general session, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Nashville, December 29, 1927.

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An elementary text-book for the use of students who have some knowledge of college physics and mathematics through elementary calculus. It is intended to give a brief general acquaintance with the more important principles and facts of electrical engineering.

A COURSE IN GENERAL BIOLOGY. Henry S. Pratt. pp. viii + 178. \$1.48.

This manual is for use in laboratory courses in general biology. It is not intended to take the place of a text-book of biology or of lectures, but to aid both the teacher and student in the practical work of the class.

The Oxford University Press, American Branch, New York

FOOD AND HEALTH. A. Barbara Callow. pp. 8 + 96. Illustrated. \$1.00.

Written for the beginning student and the general reader, this book shows the relationship between food and healthful living. Some chapters are: The chemical nature of food-stuffs, Patent foods, How to arrange a diet, Food as a cure for disease.

John Murray, London, England

LIGHT. Vivian T. Saunders. pp. vii + 320.

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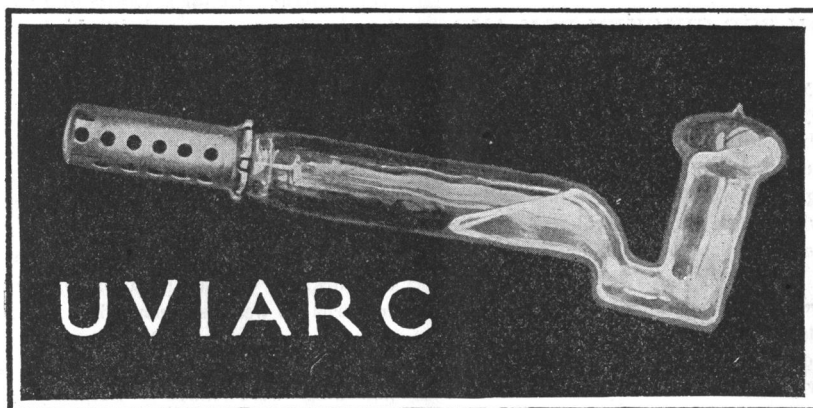
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