

# SCIENCE

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## CONTENTS

<i>The Twenty-third International Congress of Americanists</i> : DR. FRANZ BOAS .....	361
<i>Photosynthesis</i> : PROFESSOR E. C. C. BALY .....	364
<i>Millionth Scale Map of Hispanic America</i> : DR. ISAIAH BOWMAN and RAYE R. PLATT .....	367
<i>Calvin Olin Esterly</i> : PROFESSOR WILLIAM E. RITTER .....	369
<i>Scientific Events</i> :	
<i>The International Temperature Scale; The Naval Gravity Determination Survey; Dedication of the Shanklin Laboratory of Biology at Wesleyan University; The New York Medical Center; The Michelson Meeting of the Optical Society of America</i> .....	370
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i> .....	373
<i>University and Educational Notes</i> .....	376
<i>Discussion and Correspondence</i> :	
<i>Does Pure Iron have Allotropic Transformations?</i> DR. T. D. YENSEN. <i>Weather Prediction and Weather Control</i> : PROFESSOR WILLIAM S. FRANKLIN. <i>A Further Note on the Difficulties encountered by Land Vertebrates in their Development</i> : PROFESSOR F. H. PIKE. <i>The Invention of the Dynamo</i> : DR. HENRY LEFFMANN, PROFESSOR FREDERICK BEDELL .....	376
<i>Quotations</i> :	
<i>A Monument to Medicine</i> .....	380
<i>Scientific Apparatus and Laboratory Methods</i> :	
<i>Further Studies in Quantitative Virological Methods</i> : H. H. MCKINNEY .....	380
<i>Special Articles</i> :	
<i>Human Body Weight—Correlations between Body Widths and Other Physical Measurements on Young Men</i> : PROFESSOR W. R. MILES. <i>A Preliminary Report on Studies of Fireblight of Apple</i> : PAUL W. MILLER. <i>Schistosome Dermatitis in the United States</i> : PROFESSOR W. W. CORT .....	382
<i>Science News</i> .....	x

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## THE TWENTY-THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICANISTS

THE twenty-third International Congress of Americanists met in New York City during the week of the seventeenth of September, 1928. The meeting was well attended by North American, Central American, South American and European scientists.

By invitation of the American Museum of Natural History, the congress met in the halls of the museum. Wednesday the meeting was held in the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, on Thursday at Columbia University and on Friday at the Brooklyn Museum.

Professor Franz Boas, of Columbia University, was elected president; Mr. N. C. Nelson, of the American Museum of Natural History, general secretary of the congress, and President Henry Fairfield Osborn, of the American Museum of Natural History, was elected honorary president.

At the opening meeting the president paid a tribute to deceased members, particularly to Dr. Pliny Earle Goddard, secretary of the organizing committee, whose untimely death has cut short a career of great usefulness.

The discussions of the congress related almost entirely to ethnological and archeological questions. The first day was devoted to the question of cultural relations between South America and North America. Dr. Max Uhle, of Ecuador, set forth the theory of an ancient interrelation between early North America and South America and discussed the probable ancient relations between Asia and America. Professor K. Th. Preuss, of Berlin, followed with a more detailed study based on the distribution of the archeological types found at San Agustin. Professor Marshall H. Saville, of the Museum of the American Indian, New York City, also discussed the interrelation between northwestern South America and Central America, while Professor A. L. Kroeber, of the University of California, took up the matter in a broader way and set forth his view of an independent origin of the higher civilization of South America and Central America, both of which he thinks have grown up independently on a similar ancient background. Professor Erland von Nordenskiöld, of Göteborg, in discussing this subject pointed out particularly that a number of very specific inventions, like the scales in Peru, have never found their way to Central America

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**A TEXT-BOOK OF GENERAL BOTANY.** Gilbert M. Smith and others. pp. x + 539. Illustrated.

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Emphasis is placed on the magnetic aspect of the interpretation of the quantum, and a middle course is steered between a mathematical and a purely descriptive treatment. The plan of organization, the detailed description of fundamental principles, the bibliography and other paraphernalia make this work suitable for advanced text or reference use.

### Ginn and Company, Boston

**A FIRST COURSE IN PHYSICS FOR COLLEGES.** Robert A. Millikan, Henry G. Gale and Charles W. Edwards. pp. xiii + 676 + xlii. Illustrated. \$3.72.

A full year's work in elementary physics is provided in this new text-book. It is intended primarily for students who begin their study of physics in college and it is also recommended for those who studied physics in high school, but ranked below the upper quartile of their class.

**Cambridge University Press, The Macmillan Company, New York**

**SOUTH AFRICA'S PAST IN STONE AND PAINT.** M. C. Burkitt. pp. x + 183. 38 photographs and diagrams.

A general account of the early prehistory of South Africa as it was unfolded to the author in the course of a recent archaeological tour undertaken at the invitation of the University of Cape Town.

**THE FERNS.** F. O. Bower. pp. vi + 306. Illustrated.

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### The Committee on Drug Addictions, New York

**THE OPIUM PROBLEM.** Charles E. Terry and Mildred Pellens. pp. xvi + 1042.

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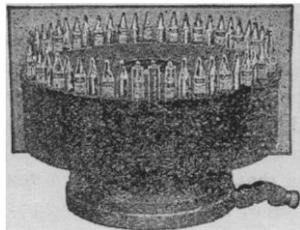
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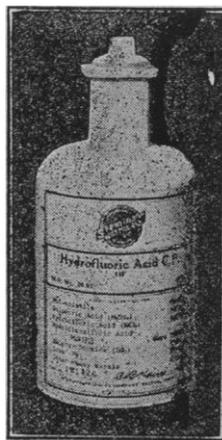
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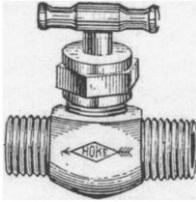
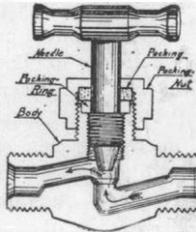
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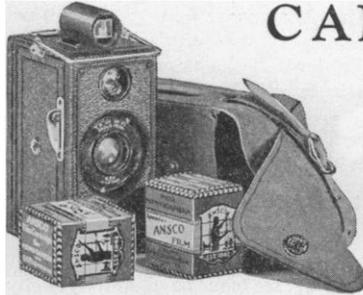
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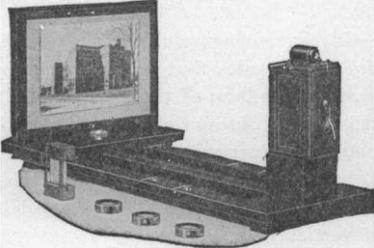
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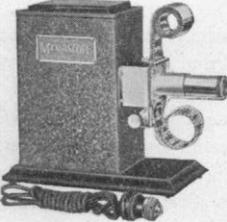
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