

# SCIENCE

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## SCIENCE AND HISTORY: A SHORT CONTRIBUTION TO PHILOSOPHY<sup>1</sup>

By E. C. ANDREWS

GOVERNMENT GEOLOGIST OF NEW SOUTH WALES

IF the ordinary member of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science were questioned concerning the main objects of the association, he or she would naturally reply that the title is self-explanatory, implying, on the one hand, coordination and correlation of scientific work by co-operation, and, on the other hand, the promotion of harmonious social relations both between scientific workers themselves and between them and the general public. The question thus naturally arises as to the scope of the association's activities and the best means of securing the desired cooperation. A glance at the names of the sections reveals a range of subjects for

discussion varying from mathematics, physics, chemistry, geology and biology, to economics, medical science, social science, education, psychology and philosophy. Whether we consider philosophy in its general meaning as inclusive of psychology, epistemology, ontology, logic, esthetics and ethics, or in its narrower sense as synonymous with metaphysics, it is evident that the subjects considered are so diverse as to imply the possession either of decided versatility or of a broad grasp of scientific method on the part of one who would attempt the correlation of these subjects. Coherence of parts (sections), at least, is necessary, however, and in view of the present centrifugal movement towards specialization with its resultant divergence of interests and tendency to misunderstanding between the workers in the peripheral excrescences

<sup>1</sup> Abstract of the address of the president of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, Brisbane, 1930.

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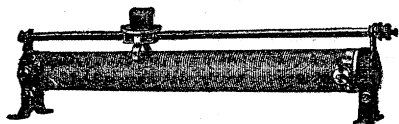
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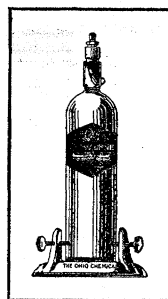


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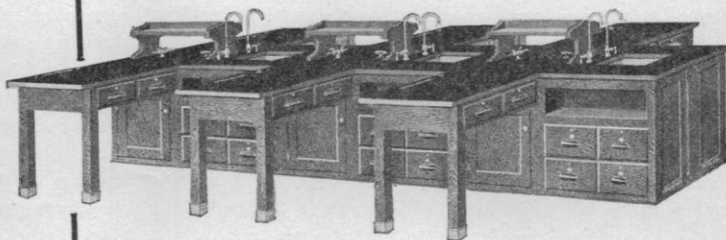
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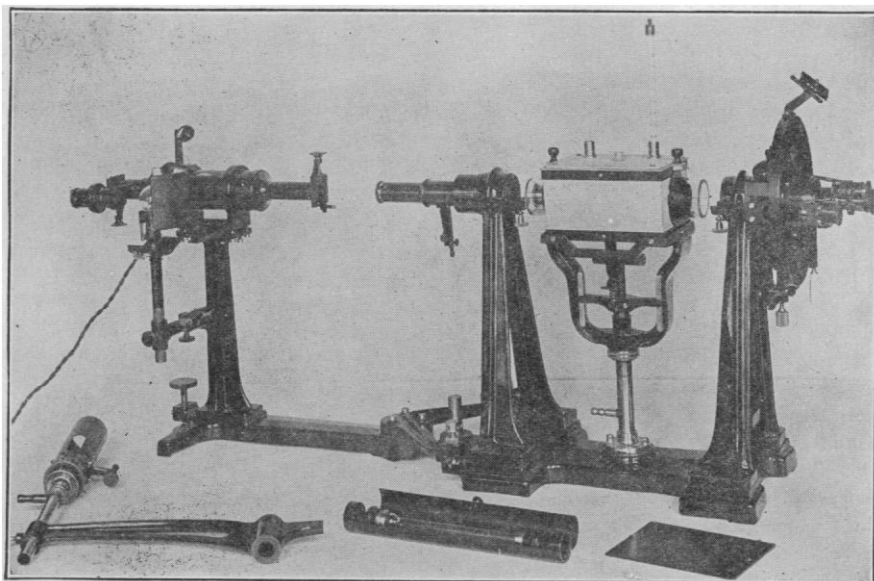
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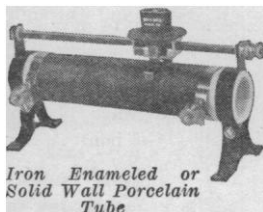
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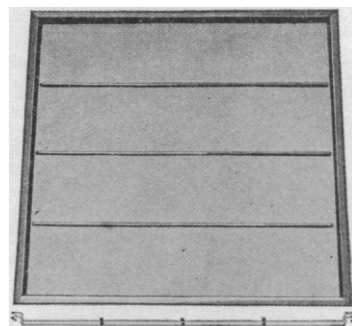
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