

came President of the United States. It is, however, said that Mr. Hoover, as a member of the cabinets of Mr. Harding and Mr. Coolidge, did not support the scientific work under his charge, and there seems to be no evidence since he has climbed to the presidency that he realizes the dependence of our civilization on scientific research and its applications.

As secretary of commerce Mr. Hoover indeed appointed a commission on highway safety, but he allowed the members to pay their own traveling expenses and took no notice of them, though he managed to have it called in the extensive newspaper publicity the "Hoover Commission."

Every president in recent years has welcomed to Washington the members of the National Academy of Sciences, which is the official scientific adviser of the government and of which President Hoover is perhaps the only member elected for reasons other than eminence in scientific research. It is said that at receptions at the White House Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Wilson were able to greet by name a considerable percentage of the members. President Hoover apparently has not noticed the existence of the academy.

It is understood that President Hoover was officially invited to address the recent Cleveland meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the national societies devoted to the social and economic sciences, meeting together for the first time, but refused, though he could have spoken by radio from Washington. He has been more obliging in other instances, as witness the following editorial article from the *Journal* of the American Medical Association:

THE PRESIDENTIAL FINGER SLIPS

Norman Baker, of Muscatine, Iowa, who claims to treat successfully cancer, goiter, varicose veins and other diseases by some secret preparations, who uses his radio station to sell cigars and get patients, who attacks most of the reputable educational institutions and scientific organizations of his state and of the nation with billingsgate and vilification, found it necessary to start a newspaper to spread his views because the reputable press of his state exposed his quackery. By some of the strange influences known only to politicians, President Herbert Hoover was induced to apply to a pushbutton in Washington the presidential digit, thereby giving to the presses in Muscatine the electrical juice necessary to induce motion, whereby inked rollers applied to paper aided still further the dissemination of Baker's notions

and nostrums. As an engineering feat, the demonstration must have given joy to the presidential cerebrum. As a demonstration of presidential judgment and a sense of the fitness of things, it gave acute pain to the press, the physicians and most of the people of Iowa. Somewhere, somehow, some secretary succeeded in precipitating the President of the United States into a situation that awaits explanations.

The writer asks that the publication of his name be omitted, for while it is improbable, though highly desirable, that President Hoover should read this communication, it might come to the attention of some member of his kitchen cabinet, and if so there would be no chance of appointment to a vacancy that may occur on the Federal Power Commission.

AN 'UMBLE SCIENTIST

[It need scarcely be said that a journal is not responsible for opinions expressed by contributors, least of all in the correspondence columns. It is, however, responsible for the acceptance of contributions, and this anonymous criticism of the President has been printed with some hesitation. It seems, however, that the relations of officers of the government to science should be freely discussed in a scientific journal, and that there may be good reasons, especially for those in the federal service, to withhold their names. SCIENCE will welcome communications describing Mr. Hoover's contributions to engineering and his support of science before and since his elevation to the presidency.—EDITOR.]

ANTI-EVOLUTION LAWS

An effort should be made, this winter, in every state, to secure by legislative enactment or vote of the people, a law prohibiting the teaching of the brute origin of man in tax-supported schools and colleges, since the false "science" of evolution is the chief support of infidelity and atheism.

I shall be glad to send free a copy of my "Evolution Disproved" by 50 convincing scientific arguments, to all members of committees considering such bills, and will send a copy free to 5000 lawmakers, if given \$1000 (one-fifth of price) which I shall also donate to missions, doubling all gifts at my cost.

Will you kindly insert this notice for the sake of the truth and the protection of the youth?

REVEREND W. A. WILLIAMS

CAMDEN, N. J.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

EXHIBITION ON THE SCIENCE AND ART OF COLOR

COLORS have come to play so important a part in modern life that this third decade of the twentieth

century promises to be known as the "Age of Color," according to Professor Charles R. Richards, of the Museum of Science and Industry of New York, who has just announced the holding of an "Exhibition on