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Capacity, grams	100	250
Sensitivity, milligrams	- 1	2
Diameter of pans, mm	80	100
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Code Word	Aonzi	Aogbe

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THE SCIENTIFIC WORLD-PICTURE OF TO-DAY¹

By General the Right Honorable J. C. SMUTS

AFTER what I said at the opening this afternoon it is unnecessary for me to emphasize further the significance of this Centenary Meeting of our association. It is a milestone which enables us to look back upon a hundred years of scientific progress, such as has no parallel in history. It brings us to a point in the advance from which we can confidently look forward to fundamental solutions and discoveries in the near future, which may transform the entire field of science. In this second and greater renaissance of the human spirit this association and its members have borne a foremost part, to which it would be impossible for me to do justice to-night. I shall therefore not attempt to review the achievements of this century of science, but shall content myself with the simpler undertaking of giving a generalized composite impression of the present situation in science. The honor of presiding over this historic meeting, which was not of my seeking, and for which I was chosen on grounds other

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¹ Address of the president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, London, September 23, 1931. than my personal merits, is indeed an almost overwhelming one, and I confidently appeal for your indulgence in the difficult task which awaits me to-night.

No. 1917

I am going to ask the question to-night: What sort of world-picture is science leading to? Is science tending towards a definite scientific outlook on the universe, and how does it differ from the traditional outlook of common sense?

The question is not without its interest. For our world-view is closely connected with our sense of ultimate values, our reading of the riddle of the universe, and of the meaning of life and of human destiny. Our scientific world-picture will draw its material from all the sciences. Among these, physical science will—in view of its revolutionary discoveries in recent years—be a most important source. But no less important will be the contribution of the biological sciences with their clear revelation of organic structure and function as well as of organic evolution. And last, not least, the social and mental sciences will not only supply valuable material, but especially methods of interpretation, insights into meanings and values, with-

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