

SCIENCE

VOL. 76

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1932

No. 1964

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

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.

SCIENCE SERVICE CONFERENCE¹

By Dr. J. McKEEN CATTELL

PRESIDENT OF SCIENCE SERVICE

SCIENCE SERVICE, organized eleven years ago, is making a new departure to-day and has brought together in this conference some of the ablest scientific men of the country. As we all know, Science Service was made possible through a gift of the income from \$500,000 by the late E. W. Scripps, one of the most original and fertile men with whom I have ever been personally brought in contact. But we are also under obligation to Dr. Ritter, on whose assistance Mr. Scripps relied in establishing the service. If Scripps was the Charlemagne who could do all these things with high hand, Ritter was the Alcuin who advised him. The indebtedness of Science Service in its organization is also great to the group of scientific men in California to whom science owes so much—Dr. Hale, Dr. Millikan, Dr. Noyes, Dr. MacDougal, Dr. Merriam and Dr. Kellogg. Finally, tribute

should be paid to our first director, Dr. Slosson, a man of remarkable literary skill with scientific training and a high standard of accuracy.

We have gone on for eleven years with some successes and some failures. My own attitude has been to criticize Science Service severely to the other trustees and officers, to defend it and even on occasion to eulogize it to others. There are here those who will offer criticisms, but we should like also to know in what ways the service has been of use. We want this conference to be strictly informal. It was our original idea to have a round-table in the library, but we found greater interest than was anticipated and had to come into the lecture room. Now we want short and informal remarks from those who are willing to give us advice and help.

By Dr. SIMON FLEXNER

DIRECTOR OF THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

IN response to your request, I am very happy to express my views regarding the manner in which

¹ Report of remarks made at the Round-table Conference held by Science Service in Washington, on April 27, 1932.

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