

# SCIENCE

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## METHODS TO FINANCE THE WORK OF THE ACADEMIES<sup>1</sup>

By Professor GEORGE E. JOHNSON

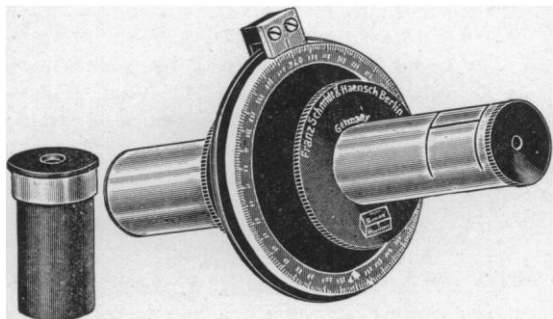
KANSAS STATE COLLEGE, SECRETARY OF THE KANSAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE main aim of an academy of science is generally the stimulation of interest in science by the holding of at least one annual meeting for the presentation of scientific papers. Of second importance, but almost as necessary as the programs is publication. The knowledge that good papers may be published is a strong stimulus for their preparation for the academy program and aids greatly in securing and holding a satisfactory membership. Other worthy projects, each maintained by one or more academies, are: (1) the raising of an endowment fund for research, (2) holding essay contests for high-school students, (3) publishing nature booklets, (4) holding field trips, (5) providing popular lectures on science, and (6) maintaining a scientific library. This

<sup>1</sup> Read at the New Orleans session of the Academy Conference, American Association for the Advancement of Science, December 28, 1931, and at the McPherson meeting of the Kansas Academy of Science, April 15, 1932.

paper deals with the problem of financing the academy meetings and publications. Since membership dues usually cover more than the expenses connected with the presentation of programs at the meetings (such as postage and printing costs for program, stationery, bills and notices) the most important question before us is that of financing an academy publication. I wish to acknowledge with thanks the provision of information for this paper by the representatives or secretaries of twenty-two other academies. It appears that academies which have adequately financed their publications have been able to do so largely through some form of state aid. Four states provide legislative appropriations for academy printing: Illinois, \$2,000; Indiana and Iowa, each \$1,500; Wisconsin, \$1,000, recently reduced from \$1,500. Some other academies receive free printing from some state educational institution. The Michigan publication is financed and published by the library of the state

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