

longed to that group of great men mentioned by Professor Robinson, composed of Longfellow, Norton, Agassiz, James Russell Lowell and Oliver Wendell Holmes. It was my good fortune within a year or two of my meeting with Asa Gray to meet all these worthies. I greatly appreciate the tribute paid to Asa Gray by Professor Robinson.

H. W. WILEY

## QUOTATIONS

### INTELLECTUAL LEADERSHIP OF THE TIMES, THE POST AND THE TRANSCRIPT

*Wireless to the New York Times, August 26, and printed on the front page.*

PROFESSOR CHARLES HENRY of the Sorbonne [Minerva does not record a Professor Charles Henry at the Sorbonne or elsewhere], one of the leading mathematicians of France, declared that he had proof of the scientific, mathematical certainty that "nobody dies entirely."

"That 'something' which is called a soul continues to radiate," he said, and, referring to the belief of some that when a man is dead he is dead forever, buried, finished and not to be talked of any more, he continued:

"What a mistake is theirs! In order to recognize their error it is necessary only to carry out certain experiments accessible to anybody knowing how to manipulate the essential apparatus 'ad hoc.' The apparatus exists."

Saying religions had sought to explain the phenomenon of death and to promise the infinite prolongation of life, Professor Henry went on:

"But I have acquired a certitude, and that by purely scientific methods, that the originators of these religions were in reality the precursors of science possessed by intuition of the truth.

"Among scientists there are means for measuring the radiation of all substances—for every substance body emanates radiation. Your lamp, your stove, your cherry tree are warmed by the sun's rays.

"Calculate that radiation which is due to heat, due to electro-magnetic elements and due to the attraction of our globe. If you make the calculations conscientiously you will with anguished surprise find yourself up against something unknown, some force which is neither one nor the other of these."

*Associated Press dispatch printed on the front page of the New York Evening Post, August 21.*

Sound waves from a human brain have been picked up by a radio receiver on a four to ten meter wave length.

The experiment is described by Professor Ferdinando Cazzamali [Minerva does not record a Professor Cazzamali at Milan or elsewhere], heard of the department of neurology and psychiatry at the University of Milan, in an article prepared for the forthcoming issue of *Revue de Metaphysique*.

As a result Professor Cazzamali foresees the transmission of sound waves from one brain to another.

He says he operated with highly excited persons or those suffering from nervous diseases as well as the noted Italian medium, Signora Maggi. The patient was shut up in a perfectly insulated cabinet.

The sounds he heard through the receiver ranged from signals akin to ordinary wireless signals to whistling and soft violin or cello notes.

Similar results were obtained, he declares, from persons under hypnosis. In every case, however, the emanations stopped when the subject resumed a normal and peaceful frame of mind.

*From an editorial article in the Boston Evening Transcript, August 21.*

Science has performed so many wonders that it sometimes presumes on achievement that is far beyond its reach. But fundamentally there seems to be no fact that militates against the Milan professor's theory, to say the least. That the "wave theory" governs or applies to the nervous impulses, or the cerebral control over the nervous centers, is altogether likely. What may eventually be done in the way of measuring, determining or controlling the "waves" of the brain no one can say in the present state of knowledge.

The suggestion that the brain impulses may thus be harnessed and coded like wireless telegraphy is a startling one. It seems to foreshadow not only a wonderful means of communication, but also the removal of the veil that hangs in front of the operations of the human mind. Conceivably it projects our race into a Palace of Truth, where each individual may read the thoughts of his neighbor. It unfolds to our gaze a rather uncomfortable world. It seems to make a goldfish in a globe out of every human being. Somehow one rather hopes that the complete development of Professor Cazzamali's discovery—if there is anything in it—will be left to the next generation.

## SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

*Medicine, An Historical Outline.* By MAJOR M. G. SEELIG. Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins.

A CHARMINGLY characteristic foreword by Lieutenant Colonel F. H. Garrison precedes this work of Seelig's, which consists of eight lectures which were delivered at the Washington University in St. Louis.