

SCIENCE

VOL. 82

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1935

No. 2139

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

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.

ANDREW CARNEGIE, PATRON OF LEARNING¹

By Dr. JAMES B. CONANT

PRESIDENT OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

WITH this evening's dinner we end a celebration which I am sure you will all agree has been most impressive. We bring to a conclusion this century's formal salutation to the memory of a most remarkable man. Now I am not qualified even to attempt to evaluate the part Andrew Carnegie played in the industrial development of this country; nor am I sufficiently informed as to the history of philanthropic enterprises to try to estimate the magnitude of the results accomplished by his immense donations. But it is clear even to the most casual observer that on this occasion we pay tribute to a unique personality, a single individual who had original ideas and the ability and character to put them into practice. When in Carnegie's own words "he resolved to stop accumulating and to begin the infinitely more serious and difficult task of wise distribution," he made for his day a novel decision. He turned a corner, as it were,

and the Anglo-Saxon world following him looked at an old problem from a new angle.

Andrew Carnegie departed from the beaten track both in accumulating his wealth and, what is vastly more important, in disposing of it. I like to think that among the other objects he had in mind in the distribution of his money was the idea that for generations to come his own unorthodox actions might enable other men in entirely different walks of life to be equally original. As Mr. Keppel has said, Carnegie in the conduct of his business believed in the importance of finding the right man and then betting on him heavily. The same principle, to my mind, may be applied throughout the whole range of human activities. Unfortunately nowadays this is too often overlooked in our research institutes and our universities. The scientific director of a large and successful company once said to me, "We could burn all the specifications for making our products, we could sink all our plants to the bottom of the Atlantic, but if we kept

¹ Delivered at the Andrew Carnegie centenary dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, November 27, 1935.

A Significant Review

of

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By E. B. BRANSON

Professor of Geology and Paleontology, University of Missouri

and W. A. TARR

Professor of Geology and Mineralogy, University of Missouri

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"A perusal of the book discloses that they have accomplished their purposes to a high degree. The long teaching experience of both of the authors is readily apparent in the thorough organization and simple and clear presentation of the subject matter, and in the complete manner in which the text is illustrated. A chapter on the organization of matter leads to the subject of volcanism and igneous rocks, and this is followed by a discussion of the weathering of igneous rocks. Attention now logically turns to the physical agents and succeeding chapters treat of the work of running water, ground water and the ocean. Sedimentary rocks and then metamorphic rocks are treated at this point, after which the discussion turns back to snow and ice and their geologic work, and

the work of the wind. Chapters on structures and diastrophism, and earthquakes complete the part devoted to physical geology. It comprises 300 of the 450 pages of the book.

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"The book is profusely illustrated, there being few facing pages without at least one picture or diagram. For the most part the pictures are well selected to illustrate the text and the majority are excellent photographs well reproduced. But to those geologists who are averse to the use of retouched photographs, it will be a source of regret that it was necessary to use so many negatives that had to be retouched.

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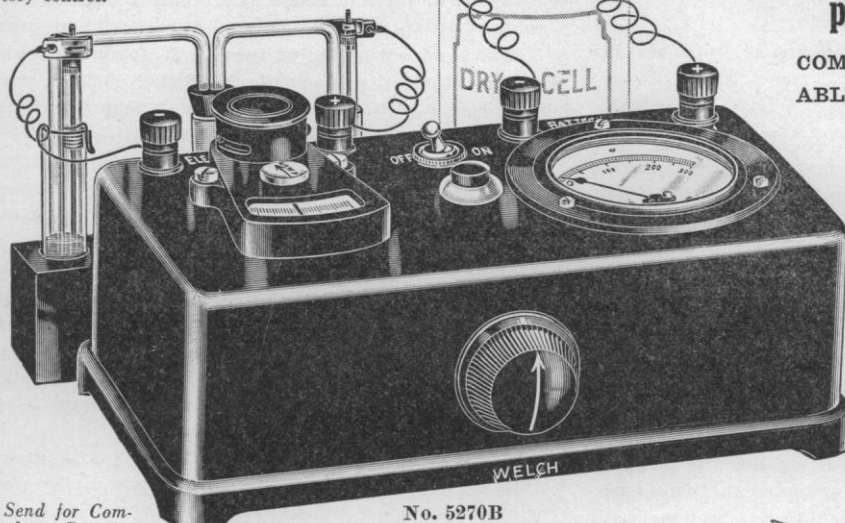
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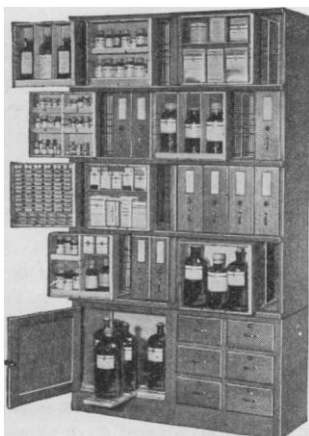
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