

EDITORIAL NOTES

In this issue we continue the series on the *Principia*, begun last issue, with another lecture by Bishop George de Charms. Also included is a review of a book by Robert Andrews Millikan published in 1927. The philosophical notes in this issue were stimulated in some measure by Millikan's book.

What possible reason can there be for reviewing at this time a book published in 1927? One good reason is that the name of Millikan continues to be important, not only because of his influence as an experimental physicist and teacher during the first half of this century, but also because of his philosophy. Almost all of us who took secondary-school physics in the United States in the twenties used the Millikan and Gale texts. In college we used the Millikan manual on molecular physics; in more advanced work his book *The Electron*. Many of us not working in the field knew all that we did know about cosmic rays from his book on that subject. In 1948 I attended the celebration of his eightieth birthday in Washington, D. C. The lectures given at that event are contained in the January, 1948, issue of the *Review of Modern Physics* and that issue carries the dedication "In Commemoration of the Eightieth Birthday of Robert Andrews Millikan, March Twenty-Second 1948." Last year while in Los Angeles I happened upon a bronze memorial plaque to Millikan in the Memorial Court of Honor in Forest Lawn—Millikan died in 1953.

Millikan's researches in the electron, in the photoelectric effect, and in cosmic rays, are well-known. His principal contributions toward education were made at the turn of the century at Chicago University and later at the California Institute of Technology. (For a survey of his work see "Robert Andrews Millikan as Physicist and Teacher" by Paul S. Epstein, *Review of Modern Physics*, January, 1948.)

The most recent issue of *American Physics Teacher* (Jan. 1964) carries an article on Millikan, and from this article we learn that Millikan had the good fortune throughout his career of having very able co-workers. One of these at Chicago University was C. Riborg Mann. While there, Mann wrote a book on the teaching of physics. With Millikan he was a co-translator from the German of Paul Drude's *The Theory of Optics* recently republished in paperback by Dover.

Readers might be interested in item 15 of the minutes of the second session of the first meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association held Friday, May 27, 1:30 P.M. (1900). It reads:

Rev. L. P. Mercer read a paper by Mr. Riborg Mann, assistant in Physics in the University of Chicago, on "The Value of Swedenborg's Chemistry"; written expressly for the meeting.

This paper is published in the *NEW PHILOSOPHY* for January, 1900. Besides having other papers in succeeding issues, Mann was for a time Corresponding Secretary of the Association.

And so with this personal motivation I felt free to set before you a discussion of this very interesting book on science and religion with the hope that other books on the same subject that have been published more recently will find reviewers for future issues.

SWEDENBORG SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION

The sixty-seventh annual meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association will be held in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, in the auditorium of Benade Hall, at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13, 1964.

There will be reports and election of president and members of the board of directors, followed by the annual address.

All interested persons are welcome.

MORNA HYATT, *Secretary*