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Fountain of Science

Century of Progress

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Science Advancing Mankind—The theme of this fountain—"Science Advancing Mankind"—is represented by the great robot-like figure typifying the exactitude, force and onward movement of science, with its powerful hands at the backs of the figures of a man and a woman, representing mankind.

Below the large elevated pool from which the central group of figures rise, are eight smaller pools, each dedicated to one of the basic sciences from which the present day all-embracing term of "Science" has arisen.

Astronomy—At the back of the pool to the north is a relief representing Astronomy, the oldest of the sciences. This relief depicts a figure with arms outstretched toward the sky, with the outline of the moon and stars.

Mathematics—At the back of the pool to the south is a relief representing Mathematics, the circle, the rectangle, the triangle and the calipers being prominent in the composition, and the entire relief being somewhat dominated by a great swirl of figures.

Physics—The pool to the west dedicated to Physics is decorated with a relief representing a figure holding a magnet typifying magnetism, and surrounded by conventionalized fire, the ancient lever, the plumb line representing gravity, and jagged lines symbolic of lightning.

Chemistry—The pool to the east is embellished with a relief having as its motif a figure representing Chemistry, with a retort in its hand, and in the corner of the relief is shown a conventionalized chemist's diagram of the combination of chemical elements.

Zoology—Between Astronomy and Physics is a pool devoted to Zoology, with a relief of a seated figure gazing at the symbols of birds and beasts.

Botany—Between Astronomy and Chemistry is a pool presided over by the spirit of Botany, represented by a relief of a reclining figure surrounded by flowers and vegetation.

Medicine—Between Mathematics and Physics is a pool giving recognition to Medicine, the relief making use of the skull and the figure of the snake from which ancient medicine was supposed to have originated.

Geology—Between Mathematics and Chemistry is a pool given over to Geology, the relief featuring the pick and symbolizing the strata of the earth.