

SCIENCE

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SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY¹

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THE present age surpasses all previous epochs of history by the intense activity of the human race, the daring of its efforts, the magnitude of its accomplishments.

We know of periods in history where great wars, great political developments, migration, religious fervor, newly discovered lands, or other causes, brought forth considerable changes in some nations, but never was the movement so wide-spread in geographical location, never were impulses operating so rapidly, nor on so extensive a scale, as to-day.

We have not reached the end of this movement; quite on the contrary, it seems to gain in intensity as the years roll by.

While some few nations have taken the lead in certain lines of human endeavor, we know, on the other hand, that the same influences are at work even in the most remote corners of the world; countries which for ages have been dreaming dreams of rest, countries of which the political, intellectual, social or industrial conditions have remained practically unchanged for hundreds, nay thousands of years, begin to awaken; willingly or unwillingly, they too seem to undergo, albeit in a smaller degree, this all-pervading tendency of enterprise, this aggressive effort to better utilize their opportunities for material, social and intellectual betterment.

In other words, modern human dynamics have reached an intensity never witnessed before.

It looks to me as if all great feats re-

¹Address of the president of the American Electrochemical Society, Pittsburgh, May, 1910.