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THERE is an old and familiar phrase which reads: "To all to whom these presents may come, greeting." I remember how in youthful days this phrase struck me as of peculiar mold and how, without perhaps realizing its antiquity or history, I puzzled as to its full significance and the conditions which, in some distant era, must have given it birth. We need not now attempt to trace its lineage or discover how ancient ambassadors or messengers may have used it in their visits to friend or foe, but I like to fancy for the moment that I am commissioned to bring to you on this anniversary occasion the greetings and congratulations of the world of science. Certain I am that such greetings and congratulations must extend from organized science in general and especially from all societies of similar scope.

Science is essentially mutualistic and the success of one organization is the gratification of all—the triumphs and discoveries of one are shared with the many and the feeling of pride in the progress of the one may be shared without loss by sister organizations. As the discovery made in one branch of science may be the necessary foundation for the solution of some problem in another, so the contribution from one society may be the stepping stone to advancement in another. It is all hail then, greetings and felicitation and God-speed in the accomplishments of your future destiny.

The state academies of science, or socie-

¹ Delivered at the twenty-fifth anniversary meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, April 26, 1912.