

is no agency equipped to organize the educational work that should be introduced into our colleges and schools, aside from popular education in conservation.

It must be clear to every student of the natural resource problem that there is an undertaking in conservation of great magnitude awaiting leadership and organized effort. There is an opportunity and, in my opinion, a duty for the great national organizations of scientific men to join hands in assuming this leadership. They are in a position to bring into harmony the objectives, the policies, and the efforts of those working in the several branches of natural resources. Under their guidance and inspiration there could be assembled the available information regarding our natural resources, and the interpretation of the problems of conservation from the broad viewpoint of the relation of all resources to our national development. The scientific organizations would thus be able to contribute to the formulation of public policies, and to aid in bringing about their adoption. And finally, it would be possible for them through existing agencies to carry out an educational plan for the introduction of appropriate studies in conservation in our schools and colleges, and to forward a far-reaching campaign of popular education.

The appointment of conservation committees by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, and the Association for the Advancement of Science, and the meeting of these committees for the consideration of joint action, should prove to be the first step in a new leadership that will give power to the conservation movement, with the promise of very large achievement.

In my opinion a very great responsibility rests upon this conference. We have an opportunity to organize the intellectual forces of the country in a movement that will have a profound influence upon the future well-being of the country. Our action may determine the direction the movement may take, and whether it will be effective or lag behind for lack of leadership. A great public interest depends

upon our foresight and vision, upon our ability to plan with wisdom.

HENRY S. GRAVES

#### PRESIDENT HARDING'S PRESENTATION ADDRESS TO MME. CURIE

*Mme. Curie:* It is with an especial satisfaction that I perform the pleasant duty which has been assigned to me to-day. On behalf of the American nation I greet and welcome you to our country, in which you will everywhere find the most cordial reception. We welcome you as an adopted daughter of France, our earliest supporter among the great nations. We greet you as a native born daughter of Poland—newest, as it is also among the oldest of the great nations, and always bound by ties of closest sympathy to our own Republic. In you we see the representative of Poland, restored and reinstated to its rightful place; of France, valiantly maintained in the high estate which has ever been its right.

As a nation whose womanhood has been exalted to fullest participation in citizenship, we are proud to honor in you a woman whose work has earned universal acclaim and attested woman's equality in every intellectual and spiritual activity.

We greet you as foremost among scientists in the age of science, as leader among women in the generation which sees woman come tardily into her own. We greet you as an exemplar of liberty's victories in the generation wherein liberty has won her crown of glory.

In doing honor to you we testify anew our pride in the ancient friendships which have bound us to both the country of your adoption and that of your nativity. We exalt anew our pride that we have stood with them in the struggle for civilization, and have touched elbows with them in the march of progress.

It has been your fortune, Mme. Curie, to accomplish an immortal work for humanity. We are not without understanding of the trials and sacrifices which have been the price of your achievement. We know something of the fervid purpose and deep devotion which in-

spired you. We bring to you the meed of honor which is due to preeminence in science, scholarship, research and humanitarianism. But with it all we bring something more. We lay at your feet the testimony of that love which all the generation of men have been wont to bestow upon the noble woman, the unselfish wife, the devoted mother. If, indeed, these simpler and commoner relations of life could not keep you from attainments in the realms of science and intellect, it is also true that the zeal, ambition and unswerving purpose of a lofty career could not bar you from splendidly doing all the plain but worthy tasks which fall to every woman's lot.

A number of years ago a reader of one of your earlier works on radioactive substances noted the observation that there was much divergence of opinion as to whether the energy of radioactive substances is created within those substances themselves, or is gathered to them from outside sources and then diffused from them. The question suggested an answer which is doubtless hopelessly unscientific. I have liked to believe in an analogy between the spiritual and the physical world. I have been very sure that that which I may call the radioactive soul, or spirit, or intellect—call it what you choose—must first gather to itself, from its surroundings, the power that it afterward radiates in beneficence to those near it. I believe it is the sum of many inspirations, borne in on great souls, which enables them to warm, to scintillate, to radiate, to illumine and serve those about them. I am so sure of this explanation for the radioactive personality that I feel somehow a conviction that science will one day establish a like explanation for radioactivity among inanimate substances.

Perhaps, in my innocence of science, I am airily rushing in where scientists fear to tread. But I am trying to express to you my conviction that the great things achieved by great minds would never have been wrought without the inspiration of an appealing need for them. That appeal comes as inspiration to successful effort, and success in turn enables the outgiving of benefits to millions whose

only contribution has been the power of their united appeal.

Let me press the analogy a little further. The world to-day is appealing to its statesmen, its sociologists, its humanitarians and its religious leaders for solution of appalling problems. I want to hope that the power and universality of that appeal will inspire strong, devout, consecrated men and women to seek out the solution, and, in the light of their wisdom, to carry it to all mankind. I have faith to believe that precisely that will happen, and in your own career of fine achievement I find heartening justification for my faith.

In testimony of the affection of the American people, of their confidence in your scientific work, and of their earnest wish that your genius and energy may receive all encouragement to carry forward your efforts for the advance of science and conquest of disease, I have been commissioned to present to you this little phial of radium. To you we owe our knowledge and possession of it, and so to you we give it, confident that in your possession it will be the means further to unveil the fascinating secrets of nature, to widen the field of useful knowledge, to alleviate suffering among the children of man. Take it to use as your wisdom shall direct and your purpose of service shall incline you. Be sure that we esteem it but a small earnest of the sentiments for which it stands. It betokens the affection of one great people for another. It will remind you of the love of a grateful people for yourself; and it will testify in the useful work to which you will devote it, the reverence of mankind for one of its foremost benefactors and most beloved of women.

#### HENRY PLATT CUSHING

The death of Professor Cushing in the month of April last at his home in Cleveland, has already been announced in these columns. His colleagues on the Geological Survey of New York wish to pay the following brief tribute to his friendship and worth. His scientific work is a part of the enduring records of the survey with which he was associated for twenty-eight years. His name will be forever