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DEDICATION OF THE HALL OF SCIENCE OF THE CENTURY OF PROGRESS EXPOSITION¹

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESSES

By RUFUS C. DAWES

PRESIDENT OF THE EXPOSITION

It was in August, 1928, nearly four years ago, that A Century of Progress, having completed its organization and outlined the general theme for its exposition, addressed a letter to Dr. George K. Burgess, then chairman of the National Research Council, containing the following sentences:

This association is desirous of providing a celebration of such character and magnitude as to be a worthy expression of the people's pride, a fitting acknowledgment of the services of our predecessors, and a source of education and inspiration, as well as entertainment, for our visitors. In all these things we are trying to proceed with a national and not a local vision.

We desire to present as a central theme of our exposition, the progress of civilization during the one hundred years of Chicago's existence. This seems to us

¹ Chicago, June 1, 1932

especially appropriate because this period represents also the great period of development of the physical sciences and their application to the services of man. We feel that a new value can be given to the enterprise by making its central idea an exposition of the service of science to society, and of the benefit to humanity brought about by this scientific and industrial development.

In broad lines we vision a great Hall of Science within which in a systematic manner the history of science, the logical development of the special sciences and their applications may be disclosed.

To-day we realize this vision and are met to dedicate the Hall of Science which in imposing proportions is the realization of our dream. We have adhered rigidly to the plan announced and the genius of the architect, Paul Cret, has afforded us a fitting setting for the dramatization of our basic theme. The hall of Science encloses nine acres of ground and offers on its two floors nine acres of exhibition space.



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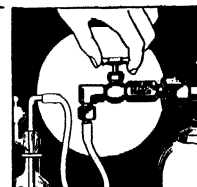
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