

SPECIAL ISSUE CONTAINING REPORTS OF THE THIRD PITTSBURGH MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE
AND ASSOCIATED SOCIETIES

SCIENCE

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Edited by Dr. HENRY B. WARD

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GENERAL FEATURES

THE third Pittsburgh meeting closed on New Year's day with a record of events which made the occasion worthy of rank alongside of the earlier meetings in that city as marked dates in the history of the association. The first meeting in Pittsburgh was held in June, 1902. From 1848 to that date the association had held fifty meetings in summer. But the vision of larger opportunities for the advancement of science brought leaders in the organization to undertake a radical change. The period in midwinter designated Convocation Week was fixed upon as better adapted to bring together all college workers in science and those in outside activities. That Pittsburgh meeting voted to start the new plan by convening again in Washington in December, the first time also that two

meetings had been held in the same twelve months. Then began also the movement to associate with the meetings technical societies in the various fields of science (of which two were accepted for that first Pittsburgh meeting) with opportunities for joint programs, discussions and stimulating personal contacts. The second Pittsburgh meeting in December, 1918, was a conference of leaders in science with a planned program definitely related to preparedness that placed science at the service of the nation.

The meeting just held demonstrated in a striking manner the effect of the plan adopted at Pittsburgh in 1902. Then the entire registration was recorded as 437¹ in ten sections and two affiliated societies; most

¹ "which placed the meeting far up toward the head of the list so far as this feature is to be taken into account." L. O. Howard, Proc. 51 (1902: 547).

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