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

# SCIENCE

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## THE THIRD INDIANAPOLIS MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE AND ITS ASSOCIATED SOCIETIES

Edited by F. R. MOULTON PERMANENT SECRETARY

#### THE SPIRIT OF IT

It is quite possible that the one hundred and first meeting of the association, held in Indianapolis from December 27, 1937, to January 1, 1938, will be remembered as the beginning of a new era in the association. As large as was this meeting and as fine as were its programs, its most notable characteristics were the fine spirit of cooperation among scientists in different fields and the increasing sense of responsibility of scientists to society. As an editorial in the *Washington Post* expressed it, "the current movement might be described as an effort to shift from science for science's sake to science for the sake of humanity." The most concrete expression of cooperation among scientists with various interests was the many symposia that were organized. They ranged freely and widely across the usual boundaries of the sciences, enriching all that were included. Many of the leading scientists in the United States participated in these broad syntheses of science, several of them leaving meetings of their own special societies for the purpose. The opinion was frequently expressed that in integrating the sciences—physical, biological and social—and in examining the relations of all of them with society, the association is rendering its greatest service to science and to the world. In similar spirit were the



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