duties. I feel sure that the members of the Association will understand the situation and forgive my absence.

As a nation we are facing decisions and responsibilities more grave than any that we have had to consider in our whole past. To reach sound decisions and faithfully to discharge our responsibilities require us to make fuller use of our national associations than ever before. No group of interests can draw apart from the general interest and claim a special and detached status. We are parts of one whole. Good citizenship must be joined to good science. The more pervasive the effects of science the more pervasive must be the interest of the scientist in the society in which his scientific discoveries do their work.

My address this year attempts to effect such a marriage of interests in one limited field. I have been engaged for some time in the study of frontier societies, the areas of pioneer settlement, and the application of the results of such studies to the problems of migration, so-called over-population, and human well-being. During the past few years these studies have been given an immediately practical turn because of the refugee problem. Pioneer settlement is also intimately connected with the use of resources in general. In developing the theme I have sought to place certain type problems in their political and social setting.

The address which I have prepared on this theme is entitled "Commanding Our Wealth" and will be published in full in SCIENCE, issue of September 15. On this occasion the Permanent Secretary of the Association, Dr. Moulton, has been good enough to accept my invitation to read suitable portions of it, and I wish to thank him warmly for accepting the invitation.

Through Dr. Carlson, your president this year, I wish to express my interest in the Cleveland meeting, my hope for its success, and my deep regret that circumstances compel me to be absent. I had hoped to greet the members and especially to thank them for the high honor which they bestowed upon me. I look forward to the time when I shall be able again to enjoy the fellowship of a meeting of the Association under the happy conditions of peace toward which we now strive so hopefully.

**Annual Association—Sigma XI Address**

*(From report by George A. Baitsell, secretary)*

On Tuesday evening, September 12, Dr. Edwin J. Cohn, Harvard University, delivered the twenty-first annual lecture under the joint auspices of the association and the Society of the Sigma XI. His subject was "Blood and Blood Derivatives," a subject of very great importance in caring for the severely wounded. The subject was ideal for presentation before an intelligent audience—it pertained to the life fluid of human beings, it was rapidly developed under the urgent needs of war and its applications will save human lives through all the future. It was presented by the master who largely created it and who, fortunately, is equally a master of clear and dignified exposition of scientific work. Attendance, about 500.

**Annual Association—Phi Beta Kappa Address**

On Wednesday evening Dr. Harlow Shapley delivered the eighth annual lecture under the joint auspices of the association and the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa. His subject, "A Design for Fighting," excited the curiosity of those who know him as an unsurpassed lecturer on the marvels of the galaxies of stars that lie in the infinity of space beyond the borders of our own Milky Way system. What he discussed in his usual brilliant and original way was worthy objectives for which scientists and all good men and women might strive.

**National Geographic Society—Smithsonian Institution Lecture**

The fourth general session, held on Thursday evening, consisted of an illustrated lecture by Dr. Matthew W. Stirling, chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology, and Mrs. Stirling. The title of the lecture was "The National Geographic Society—Smithsonian Institution Archeological Expeditions to Southern Mexico," of which Dr. Stirling was the leader. This delightful lecture by Dr. and Mrs. Stirling was abundantly illustrated by slides and motion pictures, many of them in color, which they had taken in their six expeditions. In the midst of tropical jungles they discovered and brought to light remains of civilizations long decayed and forgotten. Among many evidences of highly developed cultures of these early Americans they discovered innumerable fine specimens of beautifully carved, polished jade. A stone inscribed with Mayan numerical symbols carried the earliest recorded date of the Western Hemisphere—November 4, 291 B.C., according to the Spinden Correlation.

These four general sessions provided broad views of various aspects of science in its relations to civilization. In his presidential address, Dr. Bowman discussed a political problem of present great importance by the clear, objective methods of science. Dr. Cohn described and interpreted new frontiers of medical research in terms that made clear their high promise in saving human lives. Dr. Shapley, with the imagination of an astronomer and the zeal of a crusader, exposed certain human follies which he urged should be abandoned for equally specific human wisdom. Dr. and Mrs. Stirling rolled back the curtain that had hitherto concealed some of the earlier attempts of men to achieve happiness in this Western World. In view of the preoccupation of scientists with war work and the many distractions at Cleveland, the attendance at these general sessions, particularly the last, was gratifying. They were of the type of sessions that have made the meetings of the British