

SCIENCE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1915

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS

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IN calling this meeting to order, I wish first to say a few words about the services performed by the committee on organization—and I am sure none of them will think it invidious if I refer particularly to the work of the secretary, Professor Lovejoy, who has borne the heat and labor of the day more than any one else. All of its members are busy men and the work they have done is a labor of love. It is but fair to them that it should be known to all that their labors, continued for over a year, have been singularly free from a disposition on the part of any one to push a particular scheme or ride a particular hobby. If any one, perchance, has come here to-day with a fear that something is to be sprung upon the meeting, or that the committee has, as the saying goes, something up its sleeve, pray let him disabuse himself of the idea. The committee has tried to do nothing more than had to be done to bring together a representative body, without reference to factions or sections; to get matters into shape to facilitate discussion and economize time.

Doubtless we have made mistakes. But they are only such as are incident to getting a large enterprise under way, especially considering the lack of authoritative precedents to follow, and the lack of such clerical and other machinery as the organization itself will bring into being. The committee found itself between the Scylla of doing nothing definite and the Charybdis of doing so much as to forestall action that

Science

41 (1048)

Science **41** (1048), 147-184.

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Science (print ISSN 0036-8075; online ISSN 1095-9203) is published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1200 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005. 2017 © The Authors, some rights reserved; exclusive licensee American Association for the Advancement of Science. No claim to original U.S. Government Works. The title *Science* is a registered trademark of AAAS.