THE EIGHTH AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS

By AUSTIN H. CLARK

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The Eighth American Scientific Congress was held in Washington from May 10 to 18. The formal opening on the evening of May 10 was featured by a stirring and memorable address by President Roosevelt, in which he said:

All the men and women of this Pan American Scientific Congress have come here to-night with heavy hearts. During the past few years we have seen event follow event, each and every one of them a shock to our hopes for the peaceful development of modern civilization. This very day three more independent nations have been cruelly invaded by force of arms.

In some human affairs the mind of man grows accustomed to unusual actions if they are oft repeated. That is not so in the world happenings of to-day—and I am proud that it is not so. I am glad that we are shocked and angered by the tragic news from Belgium and The Netherlands and Luxembourg.

The overwhelmingly greater part of the population of the world abhors conquest and war and bloodshed—prays that the hand of neighbor shall not be lifted against neighbor. The whole has seen attack follow threat on so many occasions and in so many places during these later years. We have come, therefore, to the reluctant conclusion that a continuance of these processes of arms presents a definite challenge to the continuation of the type of civilization to which all of us in the three Americas have been accustomed.

In his address President Roosevelt acknowledged with appreciation the great achievements of science in the extension and development of modern civilization. He said that the objectives toward which science is