

October 26th, 1929.

Dr. H. M. Tory,  
Chairman, National Research Council,  
OTTAWA.

My dear Dr. Tory:-

A suggestion has recently been made to me that some mutual advantage would result if senior members of the professional staff of the National Research Council were appointed Honorary Professors in University faculties. In support of the proposal it is stated that in Europe honorary professorships in universities are given to men who are professionally qualified and occupied in research institutions.

Such a proposal obviously raises questions of great importance and must be considered in the light of general university policy. The European case is, of course, not parallel. I have consulted members of other university faculties, as well as my own staff, and the result of my inquiries has satisfied me that the project would not be of advantage to the Research Council or to the Universities. Your own experience will, I am sure, lead you to the same conclusion. The difficulties created by the appointment of professors who were in no way subject to any faculty or to Corporation are almost insuperable. I doubt, moreover, whether it would be possible to secure the necessary amendments to the University constitution. Difficulties on your side will doubtless be apparent to yourself.