

Finances of the Medical School.-

The modern Medical School is apparently transcending all the bounds of reasonable expenditure in an effort to attain standards of efficiency. These expenditures are more often than not urged without regard to the possibilities of attaining such ideals. For example, attention was drawn to the fact that here and there, large laboratories were erected for the purpose of research without any probability of the institution being able to staff them with men capable of using them with any value to the School. In other words, no dividends are paid.

Departments are often created on a scale not justified by existing conditions, and Schools compete in buildings and equipments where it is useless and wasteful. To-day, for example, the enormous endowments of Johns Hopkins and Harvard in Health have rendered it unnecessary extravagance on the part of any School in the vicinity to attempt competition on an equal scale; for this reason, that the need for men in such a service and the outlook for suitable remunerative posts for graduates are insufficient to create any greater demand.

The duplication, again, of large clinical laboratories in various departments of our hospitals is another example of wasteful expenditure, as is also the needless construction of many large teaching theatres and class rooms. By careful arrangement, hours of instruction can be so adjusted as to utilise these class rooms for various departments. The expenditure of money in some of the large State institutions in the U.S.A. has become an everyday affair, and there seems almost no limit to the amount of money thus used. In Ann Arbor to-day building operations are going ahead that will involve the immediate expenditure of about \$20,000,000. To this must be added the expense of upkeep of these buildings. This is all very well for the State-endowed institution; for the unendowed institution, such as is McGill, the outlook is extremely serious, and for that reason, there is every need to conserve as much as possible any money that is available.

We will apparently soon be obliged to face the fact that students we have been hitherto receiving from the West in fairly large numbers will remain in the Provincial Schools which are now being organized. Thus, for example, in Alberta, whence McGill has continuously drawn many of its students, the new Medical School which is being established under most ideal conditions, with University buildings of the most modern type, with hospital facilities all under the control of the University, and with a progressive body of teachers, will provide for the students of this Province, who will find it no longer necessary to go elsewhere for their education. In Manitoba this already exists, and the Medical School in Winnipeg but rarely sends students to McGill.

I am told by the Minister of Education for British Columbia