

obtain a body of Canadian scholars, fit to be named along with the foremost scholars of Germany and England and the United States. We must in our universities make a serious attempt to supply the needs of all classes of students. We must try to lift to a higher level the whole of the work that is done in them. The standard of matriculation should be higher in quality, and a course of post-graduate work should crown our honour courses. To secure the first measure of reform will not be easy. Little can be done by any single university, and certainly very little by a university such as ours that cannot hope to determine the character of the work done in our high schools. I venture however, to make one suggestion, although past experience makes it very doubtful if any heed will be paid to it. Let us have a meeting of representatives, if not of all the Canadian universities, at least of the universities of Ontario, for the purpose of enquiring whether our matriculation examinations might not be made more rational than they now are, and, for the discussion of all questions affecting the interests of higher education. The past history of

Queen's has shown, I think, that she will not stand in the way of any necessary reform. In the matter of post-graduate work we are fortunately in a more independent position. The main limit here is in the relatively small number of our teachers, considering the varied work that we undertake. But our condition is steadily improving. The recent additions to our staff make it possible for us to attempt something in the way of post-graduate work. We can at least draw up a scheme of post-graduate work, and give some assistance to those who intend to do the whole or part of it in the university. Such a scheme is now under consideration, and will probably be published in the next calendar. I make bold to suggest to the trustees of our university, that half a dozen fellowships of the annual value of, say, \$250 each should be established, to be given to men who have taken high honours in one of the departments of study, and who are willing to stay on at the university in the prosecution of independent work. No money could well be better spent. Those are most deserving of help who show that they are eager to help themselves.

A LESSON IN COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY.

SIR C. W. WILSON, in his presidential address to the geographical section of the British Association, dwelt upon the importance of commercial geography and its bearings upon the economic welfare of England. He gave a sketch of the history of the world's trade, and thus outlined one of the most important branches of commercial geography. His remarks on the value of this study, although referring to England, are well worth being remembered. "My object has been," he said, "to draw attention to the supreme im-

portance to this country of the science of commercial geography. That science is not confined to a knowledge of the localities in which those products of the earth which have a commercial value are to be found, and of the markets in which they can be sold with the greatest profit. Its higher aims are to divine, by a combination of historical retrospect and scientific foresight, the channels through which commerce will flow in the future, and the points at which new centres of trade must arrive in obedience to known laws. A precise