

In general, the laboratories serve adequately the needs of our undergraduate courses, and we are well equipped for certain kinds of work in the Graduate School. In research work, it has been our general policy to investigate problems closely allied to contemporary engineering practice, and our limited resources have been used to build up a thoroughly good equipment for certain classes of work, particularly in structural engineering, rather than to provide inadequately in a larger field.

Our equipment is also available for commercial testing work, a considerable amount of which passes through our laboratories. Broadly speaking, we undertake work of a special character, which, for one reason or another, cannot be performed satisfactorily by commercial laboratories. Our commercial testing varies from simple routine investigations, such as tensile tests of specimens of wire rope, to most elaborate investigations, such as those on pin friction and the strength of eyebars in connection with the design of the Quebec Bridge. The procedure followed depends on the nature of the investigation. Routine work is performed by our permanent laboratory staff under the supervision of a member of the staff of the Department, who takes the responsibility for and signs the reports of tests. Until his death last October, the late Dean MacKay looked after this work. Investigations involving original research are usually under the direction of a member of the staff of the Department. Occasionally our facilities are placed directly at the disposal