

October 15th, 1929.

Sir Robert Falconer, K.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
President, University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Sir Robert:-

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.

The question, I may say, comes up in connection with a specific case, but it seems to me that before any specific case can be discussed there is an important question of university policy to be decided. At the same time I feel that the matter is not one in which any university should stand alone. There are several points involved,- our relationship to the Research Council, the measure of control or lack of control over a member of that Council nominally on the University staff, the extent to which such a plan should be carried - in other words, are we to have honorary professors, honorary associate professors, etc.- the basis of selection, and so on. There are other points which, I have no doubt, will at once occur to yourself.

I am told that the European case is not quite parallel, in as much as Professorships are in the gift of the State and not granted by the universities