

President's Office.



October 23, 1929

My dear Sir Arthur:

I have made inquiries indirectly from Dr. Speakman with regard to the suggestion that members of the staff of the Ontario Research Council should be given honorary positions as professors on our university staff. No mention was made to him of a similar suggestion having been made in regard to the staff of the Dominion Research Council at Ottawa. Dr. Speakman is strongly opposed to any such suggestion. He believes that it is in their own interests to keep entirely free from formal connection with the University. Their work is in industrial research and not in the primary sciences. The University's research he believes should be confined to primary and applied sciences, and should in no way conflict with theirs which deals with definite problems. I should therefore not mention the matter further to him. His decision, however, as I see it settles the question for us in regard to Ottawa, because we could not ask Ottawa people to hold honorary positions as professors on our staff without doing the same for the provincial institution.

I can see that difficulties also might arise in knowing how to select those who should be chosen as honorary professors, and that if they were associated too closely with the University trouble might arise from members of the staff of the University who might feel that they were preferred in honor before them.

At any rate, in the meantime, it seems to me that it would not