

sick. In laboratories such as those raised here for pathology and physiology and hygiene students can learn these sciences as medicine is learned in the hospital ward, by direct enquiry into the nature. The teachers you give them are men who have won widely recognized distinction as themselves direct enquirers into nature. Worthy students will appreciate the double boon their *alma mater* gives them—the means of learning at first hand those secrets of nature which lie at the root of his craft's skill—and to learn them under guidance by men who excel in unravelling such secrets.

Only by enabling men to continue their learning after their teaching is over can we secure the greatest advantage any educational system can afford. Your laboratories here will encourage post-graduate work. We look with keen interest to the researches that will flow from them. No subjects offer finer fields for research than do the progressive studies, physiology, pathology and hygiene, to which your new University buildings are consecrated. And of the functions of a laboratory, research is not the least costly. We in the Old Country find that. Our central Government has done little to support research. Our nation, proud of its success in things practical, has been prone to despise the abstract and the theoretical. We do so foolishly; we do so at our peril. Behind all practical application there is a region of intellectual action to which, though our practical men have contributed little, they owe the whole of their supplies. Theory, if a goose, is the goose of the "airy tale that lays the golden eggs. No more such eggs if once you let her die. To speak of theoretic knowledge slightly is for the lips of the fool. The value of abstract research to a country is becoming more widely acknowledged among us than it was. Sir John Brunner said the other day, at Liverpool, that there was no better investment for a business man than the encouragement of scientific research, and that every penny of the wealth he possesses has come from the application of science to commerce and manufacture. And we find that munificent citizens have and do come forward among us and meet by their individual gifts the pressing needs in this respect of our community at large.

But we welcome a new era drawing on us. Liverpool, Birmingham, Sheffield, and other great centres, begin to regard the local University as an institution entitled to support from the public means, for instance, by subsidy from public rates. Such subsidies can be used also for studies which do not come within allotment from the smaller subsidy from the central Government: medicine, for instance. Proud of the young universities—to which yours of Toronto is a time-honored veteran—communities and local Governments are encouraging research within our universities. They do not expect such research to be able to pay