

#5.

probably be equalled in the Director. Furthermore, care must be taken that the importance of the laboratory side is not hypertrophied in comparison to the bedside work. Although Medicine is striving towards a scientific basis, there is still a great deal of importance which as yet can hardly be classified in this category. It is, therefore, important that the Director should have their assistance in the clinical teaching and also in helping him bear the responsibility of the care of the patients. I gather from your plans that the medical beds would comprise one large co-ordinated and co-operating unit. If I remember rightly, there are about 120 medical beds in the Royal Victoria Hospital. I know from experience that this would be too many for one Director to supervise alone, and I think everyone would gain by the presence of two such senior teachers as I have mentioned. Their duties, however, would not be onerous and they could devote as much time as they pleased to their hospital duties, although their teaching would be definitely laid down. In your letter you mention that the Director would have the control of at least 50 beds. You do not mention who would have control of the other beds, but I presume that they would probably be controlled by other physicians. If that be the case, such physicians would naturally be the senior part-time teachers, but I think everything should be done to bring about a complete unification of all the medical wards. The more I see of separate or water-tight medical services in one hospital, the more I appreciate the disadvantages in the way of teaching and medical progress. This unification under one head presupposes a broad tolerance and encouragement of individual thought and endeavour.