

*"Science is the great instrument of social change, all the greater because its object is not change, but knowledge; and its silent appropriation of this dominant function, amid the din of political and religious strife, is the most vital of all the revolutions which have marked the development of modern civilization. It has practically transformed human life, to such an extent that the experience of men and women to-day is something radically different from what it has ever been before." Dr. Griffith, after citing the well known fact that Pasteur saved for his country more lives than were lost in the Franco-Prussian war, proceeded: "It should be our mission to make evident to the working man his indebtedness to the pioneers of science. Demonstrate to him the close connection between the price of his meat and the use of refrigerating processes founded on the investigations of Joule and Thomson; between the purity of his beer (this for the Englishman!) and the labours of Pasteur. Show the collier that his safety is to no small extent due to Humphrey Davy; the driver of the electric tramcar that his wages were coined by Faraday. Make the worker in steel realise his obligation to Bessemer and Nasmyth; the telegraphist his indebtedness to Volta and Wheatstone, and the man at the 'wireless' station that his employment is due to Hertz. Tell the soldier that the successful extraction of the bullet he received during the South African War was accomplished by the aid of Rontgen. Convince the sailor that his good 'landfall' was achieved by the help of mathematicians and astronomers; that Tyndall had much to do with the brilliancy of the lights which warned him of danger, and that to Kelvin he owed the perfection of his compass and sounding-line. Impress upon all wage-earners the probability that had it not been for the researches of Lister, they, or some member of their family, would not be living to enjoy the fruits of their labours. If we could but bring some 5 per cent. of our voters to believe that their employment, their security, their comfort, their health are the fruits of scientific investigation, then, but not until then, should we see the attitude of those in authority towards this great question of the encouragement of research change from indifference to enthusiasm, and from opposition to support. When we have educated the man in the street it is possible that we may succeed in the hardest task—that of educating our legislators."

"The field of industrial research may not be mapped off definitely from the area in which any seeker after knowledge labours for the service

* Taken from Principal Peterson's address to the Royal Canadian Institute in April, 1914. He quotes from an article based on what Mr. Balfour said recently of scientific study and from an address of Dr. Griffith, of University College, New South Wales, to The British Association.