

contributory. It is not final. It is no challenge or test of scholarship or service whether a professor does or does not wish to engage in it. In a well-ordered institution of learning research should be for those who have a special aptitude or desire, I must not say a special limitation, in that direction. If this point is granted, it means that research becomes for any one professor a matter of choice and not an obvious duty. It must be voluntary, or it becomes mechanical, false and worthless. A school of research should be organised on a purely voluntary basis. Only those who want to do it should be asked to do it.

I have written what goes above as an extended preface to what follows. The aim has been to set the subject in the place where it belongs.

I now turn to the question of the organisation and object of research in the social, economic and political sciences. I wish to deal here with the case of research already endowed and compensated by funds that must be used for research or not used at all. It is quite obvious that some very simple and primitive considerations enter into this case. It is a pity not to use money when it is there. But conscience also enters in. It is wrong to use it to false purpose.

A research committee should, therefore, dismiss at once from its mind that every department and every professor should be desirous, or should be obliged, to share in its work. It should look for persons to whom its funds offer a desired opportunity, make available an activity otherwise denied. Let us see what it has to offer to such people. In the physical sciences, I repeat, everything: in the social sciences nothing much, except for those of a strong bent towards a peculiar task. We must not start from the idea that offering research to a professor is like offering hay to a horse.

The committee, therefore, should address itself first to finding out who wants to do research. What can it offer them? The opportunity to have their work printed and presented to the world: this is much, but it is not everything. It still leaves the professor in question with his daily work of the classroom to be