

the learning to know and look up to and copy one's fellows for their innate worth apart from all sordid considerations, the mingling with and weighing all sorts and conditions of one's fellows—the education in humanity, rather than in the humanities—that constitutes the supreme value of an Arts course. He is a better man who has experienced this.

But, on the other hand, I cannot conscientiously urge that we demand of all our graduates eight years at the University—three in the Arts course, five in the medical school; or even seven years, with but two in the Arts course. For one thing, so prolonged a training leads a man to become stale—as we termed it at Cambridge. Intensive learning cannot be continued year after year without sapping the capacity to receive and perceive facts. Time and again I noted at Cambridge that men who had already won high distinction at Scotch universities in mathematics or classics and who had come to the English university to gain further academic distinction along the same lines and sweep the boards of prizes—academic hogs, if I may so term them—were beaten easily by younger men fresh from the English public schools. They had grown stale. And at McGill we have noted as a common occurrence that the frequent B.A.'s. among our students—of course, as in the foregoing instance, there are brilliant exceptions—do but poorly in their first two or three years under us. In part this must be attributed to staleness; in part, I am convinced, to the fact that the more bookish academic training, if too long continued, actually unfits a man for the dissecting room and the laboratory and the frame of mind necessary for scientific research—for using his eyes and brains and depending upon what his sense tells him rather than depending upon authority. As a rule in the final years these men get into their pace again and do excellently. Their brains are better trained organs and this eventually tells. But all the same I believe that they have wasted roughly a year of their student life; that they would have been equally capable and equally equipped with two years only in Arts. In short, I believe that the combined course such as is afforded in Toronto is educationally superior to what the Carnegie Report accepts as its ideal. But this, you will urge, is practically the standard commended by the