

ing of experts, such as glass-blowers, electricians and instrument makers. After these become proficient, they are put in charge of machines or processes in the laboratory. Boys from less wealthy homes, who are ambitious and wish to better themselves, are received into this school for instrument makers at about sixteen years of age, if they are recommended by their school teachers. The course which they take is of six years duration. They serve as apprentices to the glass-blower, in the machine or wood working shops, or as electricians. Five nights per week they attend the evening High School, where they study Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and Elementary Engineering. Each year there are severe examinations which they must pass or repeat the work. At the end of the course they find employment in Professor Kamerlingh Onnes' laboratory, or obtain positions as instrument makers in other laboratories, and they are in demand wherever they are known. So there is an abundance of trained assistants at hand in Leiden, and if any experiment is projected a young man makes the drawings and the mechanics build the apparatus, so that in an incredibly short time the experiment is finished. One is able to accomplish in a few weeks what would take as many months anywhere else. The assistants show the keenest interest in the work of the laboratory and are most accommodating and generous with their time.

All of Professor Kamerlingh Onnes' students work on his problems and no work is done which does not contribute in some way to his general plan. Fortunately my work fitted in and I was allowed to come in as a guest and everything was done which could be done to make my stay a success. I worked with Professor Kuenen, trying to determine some matters connected with the liquefaction of air. This was so closely related to my own previous work that I was able to handle it quite easily. In connection with this research I was able to study the organization and methods of the laboratory in detail. Nothing was hidden and I could secure all the information I wished. Apparatus, methods and plans were freely discussed. My own disagreement with Professor Onnes was not entirely settled, but we were able to agree upon a crucial experiment which I expect to undertake as soon as a liquid air plant is installed here at Queen's.