

middle and far west have already anticipated this need and we are now met to celebrate an important step in the development of our prairie province from whose ample bosom is derived that sustenance upon which so many in this and other lands have come to depend.

The Canadian government has not been blind to the value of such knowledge to the people. The provision of a fund of ten million dollars to be distributed throughout the Dominion for the benefit of agricultural instruction is a splendid national investment. This far-sighted policy under the direction of such wise leaders of Canadian progress as Dr. C. C. James, will bring much that is needed, not alone to the agricultural interests, but to all of us.

SCOPE, VALUE AND COST OF PROVINCIAL UNIVERSITIES

In the consideration of the function and scope of a provincial university, we should carefully consider the end sought, the benefit to be derived, the means available and the cost of installation and operation. At the present day we are not staggered when confronted with the necessity of spending hundreds of millions of dollars on railroads, whose construction is necessary to open up new lands. We pledge our own generation and our children to the payment of vast sums for advantages which sometimes remain problematical for years. We see the need for tremendous capital investment in the matter of mines when sometimes many years elapse before production yields satisfactory dividends. The dividends to be paid by our educational system are not all to be expressed in terms of dollars and cents, but they are sufficiently obvious to induce those states which have had most experience to invest more deeply every year.

I had the honor to deliver the second annual opening address before the faculty of

science of the University of Manitoba in October, 1907, at which time I spoke upon "State Responsibility in University Education." On that occasion I gave the available figures for capital and maintenance expenditures in certain of the state institutions in the mid-western portion of the United States. At that time, Wisconsin was spending for all purposes something over one million dollars per annum. Minnesota's outlay for current expense was over \$650,000 per annum. Illinois had available considerably over two million dollars for all purposes for the biennial period.

Only six years have elapsed and yet for the current year 1913-14 there is being expended by each of the three state universities—Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois—in round numbers, two million dollars per annum for current expenses, which excludes not only building, but equipment outlay. This increase of approximately three hundred per cent. in six years in expenditure undoubtedly would not be made were it not for the fact that those three states are convinced that they are receiving satisfactory dividends on those combined annual outlays of over six million dollars. That they are being repaid in many more directions than they realize during those early years seems likely, because in the modern university, as in a railroad or other important public utility, the initial cost of installation and operation, as also of extension, must inevitably be very much higher in relation to efficient service than in later years.

For the proper fulfillment of her function of developing leadership in every phase of social and economic development, the provincial university must of necessity keep pace with all human knowledge and add her share to the sum total. When we remember the additions which have been made to our armamentarium in our own