

GENERAL REPORT

PREFACE

Section 1.

Only familiarity with local conditions and experience, ripened from meeting those conditions, will permit one to work out a commercial course suitable to the peculiar needs of any particular university. These suggestions, therefore, are indicatory in scope only and are based on principles that have been proved at the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration and by several years of experience in building an undergraduate course at the University of Western Ontario.

Frequent reference to the latter University is due to two factors:

1. The unquestioned success which has attended the principles and policies followed by the University of Western Ontario since they were first planned out in 1922.
2. The familiarity of the writer with the problems of that institution.

THE PLACE OF COMMERCE IN THE UNIVERSITY.

Section 2.  
Educational  
Development  
of Business

Written records of business transactions have reached a point where they can be scientifically studied and classified for the accumulated experience they represent and for the broad principles of action they contain. Hence business has developed to a point where it can be made a matter of education. It has followed the same path as has previously been followed by all other branches of education--the Arts, which in their early stage grew out of the activities of the Church; Medicine, which grew out of the practice of medicine; Law; Pedagogy; Engineering; Agriculture etc. In other words, business has progressed to a point where it has become a proper subject for advanced educational application--it shows the first germ of professionalization.

Section 3.  
Laboratory  
Requirements

All true advanced education has its laboratory, either modelled on the actual practising field of an occupation or consisting of the actual field itself. Literature has the works of poets and authors. The Sciences have their laboratories miniaturized after the scientific equipment everywhere in use. Law has its courts, medicine has its hospitals. Agriculture has its husbandry. So Business finds its laboratory readily available in the actual world of commerce. Hence the close contact which the Department of Commerce needs to maintain with the world of business in the utilization of its equipment and of its experienced experts involves nothing new to an academic concept. The proper utilization of the world