

Brains, not bricks, should be the school motto in the matter of laboratories. A young Faraday in a shed is worth a dozen scientific showmen in costly buildings with lavish outfits. The accommodation, I am told, is at present ample in the larger schools. I have, indeed, seen laboratories which the most up-to-date college would envy. In the smaller schools it has not always been easy to get either the men, the space, or the equipment for teaching all the branches, and if an attempt is made to give earlier and more intensive science teaching there will have to be improvement all round.

The real crux is not with men or with buildings, but so to organise the teaching of the school as to have a continuous science course through two years. What is done now occasionally by the individual, I should like to see done by all the science men coming up to the universities or to the medical schools. A few men take the preliminary scientific subjects on entering Cambridge. Though possible, this at Oxford is rarely done; indeed, the examination is not at a suitable time! For some years now I have watched the results of the chemistry "prelims" at Oxford, and have consulted with many examiners, and I am sorry to say that the opinion usually expressed has been that in this subject the teaching in the schools is not yet up to college standards.