

Of late years, work of such potential value in certain fields has been undertaken and, indeed, has reached a point where returns of value are to be anticipated. It does not seem good business, therefore, to lose irrevocably all that has gone into this work in trying to tide the country over an admittedly serious temporary situation. In the present struggle for world markets our scientific services are the weapons upon which we must depend to enable us to overcome the competition we are compelled to face.

The severest blow that will be dealt by the proposed reductions, however, is to the human material, i.e. to the technical personnel. We do not refer to the personal effect upon the men themselves, but the effect on the future development of Canada. For years it has been urged that Canada lacked a sufficient body of trained men, that, in spite of what was being accomplished, a different and more thorough training, a new view-point and a different method of approach was necessary to enable us to meet modern competitive methods. This challenge was accepted by the universities, which, at considerable cost to themselves and with no appreciable assistance from the government, built up an organization capable of meeting these supposed needs. As a result, there is now available a more adequate force of competent young Canadians trained and equipped in Canada to solve Canadian problems.

The proposed sudden cessation of activities means that these men must find employment elsewhere and, not only that, but it will force others in a less advanced state of training to look elsewhere for their life work. The result will be that when this time of stress is over we shall neither have these same men nor others to take their places. These men will be irrevocably lost to us; the care