

was a grant of £50 to Mr. Hicks for "researches on alcohol." I do not know how many grants have been made or how many researchers have benefited by the scientific grants, but I do know that from £300 to £400 a year have been awarded every year, and that such men as Washbourn, Bayliss, Starling, Rose Bradford, Kanthack, Halliburton, Gaskell, and many others quite as distinguished have been recipients of grants, and that a large number of researches have been made possible by the liberality of the Association.

Ten years later (1884) two research scholarships of £150 each were founded, to enable men to devote their whole time to particular researches. Since that time there have been some 50 scholars of the Association, and it will suffice to tell you that Sir Watson Cheyne, Dr. Sidney Martin, Dr. Stockman, Dr. Copeman of the Local Government Board, Professor Hageraft, and Professor Starling have been scholars of the Association to prove to you the pains which have been taken to select persons fitted to pursue original research.⁴

It has been my lot to speak both for and against the scientific grants on more than one occasion. As Treasurer of the Association I have had to restrain the ardor of the committee and to prevent it dipping its fingers too deep into the purse of the Association. As a member of the committee I have had to defend the grants from the platform at the annual meetings. There have always been members of the Association who have grumbled that the money devoted to scientific purposes was not applied to the defence of members and to the suppression of illegal practice. And, even of those who approved of the grants, there were always some who grumbled at the nature of the investigations and wished to see the money applied to investigations which were likely to find a certain and immediate practical application. I confess that these latter grumblers have sometimes had my sympathy. Researches on pulse-curves and researches on biliary secretion seem a long way from practical medicine. Yet I would not, on any account, interfere with or appear to despise any research, however little it would seem likely to be useful in the practice of medicine and surgery, provided it is in the hands of a competent worker, and is likely to provide new knowledge. The last time I spoke in favor of the