

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO RESEARCH WORK.

In our previous issue we expressed pleasure at the fact that a start had been made in the direction of establishing a fund for research investigations in connection with the medical faculty of the University of Toronto. We know of nothing that will raise the standing of this department of the university to a higher plane than would a well-organized and ably-conducted laboratory of research.

So far the funds have been contributed by private citizens, and all honor to those who have made gifts for this purpose. But to retain the confidence of these donors, so as to secure further assistance from them, and to win the good-will of others, it will be necessary that the research work be efficiently conducted, and that really good work is being done; for nothing succeeds like success. With this end in view, it is to be hoped that there will be no undue delay in making public the disposition of the funds that have been obtained, the volume and character of the investigations that are being carried on, and the composition of the staff that is entrusted with these researches.

But the work is only in its infancy as yet, and due patience must be shown. It may be some time yet before any report of work actually done can be issued; but an outline of what is proposed or under way should be to hand at an early date. We wish this feature of the university's life every success, and it is for this reason that we think that the scheme should be set out with as much detail as is possible, in order that all who are interested in original work may feel encouraged to lend a helping hand.

MATERNITY BENEFITS.

Australia has set an example of advanced legislation in the way of granting assistance to mothers at the period of confinement. In that portion of the British domains \$25 is paid for each child that is borne. This assists the mother to secure what care she may require.

There are no restrictions on the payment. It goes to all classes alike. During the time that the Act has been in operation, now a year and a half, the Commonwealth of Australia has paid out in maternity benefits the substantial sum of \$5,000,000. This money has largely been obtained from the wealthy in the form of taxes, and has largely gone to the working classes, as by far the most numerous.

In Britain, under the National Insurance Act, thirty shillings is paid to women coming under the terms of the Act, when children are born. This is a small sum, but it may help many a very poor woman