

I am told that at least one leading university in Canada has for some years required of Ph.D. candidates some serious preparation in the art of teaching on the part of those planning to accept teaching positions. It is high time that our colleges and universities took similar action.

Until such action is taken, we should help our young doctors to think gravely and seriously of the responsibilities and opportunities of the teaching profession. The first position is not likely to carry a generous salary. But let's not be so naïve as to seem to excuse our sloppy teaching on that score. I remember an honest Minnesota girl who had a school, and not much education or skill to go with it. When some one called attention to her poor work, she excused herself by saying, "Ah, it's little they pays me an' it's little I taches thim."

Research is good, and the extension of the horizon of human knowledge is good. But it may be good for nothing, if it can not be translated into the lives and accomplishments of mankind. Many a researcher's efforts have been lost because human society was not ready to make use of the new knowledge. Let us never forget Thomas Huxley and his teaching—a great scientist adding great contributions to the sum of human knowledge, but a great teacher as well, and never satisfied until his science could be "vulgarized," as the French express it, that is, until his science could be presented clearly to intelligent people not specialists in science. *That* is the teacher's mission, his opportunity for human service. And I wish that each one of the army of new doctors who goes out to his chosen work each year, whether in teaching or in research, might take with him the spirit of Huxley, as a real religion in his daily work. I can not wish for him greater happiness.

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SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE IMPERIAL CHEMICAL HOUSE IN LONDON¹

NOT content with its achievement in erecting a landmark in the history of chemical industry, Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., has provided the Imperial metropolis with an outward and visible expression both of its work and of the status which that work has won for the company. Down by the River Thames, close to the Houses of Parliament (the division bell of which rings on the directors' floor) there has arisen in a surprisingly short time a noble building designed by Sir Frank Baines to combine beauty

¹ From *Nature*.

of form with commercial efficiency of a high order, and that degree of comfort which ministers to both; many will like to regard it as a new monument dedicated to chemists, physicists, engineers and chemical engineers of the past, the present and the future—a whim which will seem not altogether to lack reality when the carved portraits of Liebig, Priestley, Ludwig Mond, Alfred Mond, Harry McGowan, Lavoisier, Mendeléef, Cavendish, Dalton and Berthelot are seen surmounting the arches of the main façades. Faraday is selected for special honor, for one of the panels on the massive main door—that intended to represent the achievements of modern science—will portray a lecture by Faraday at the Royal Institution.

Imperial Chemical House, which had to be designed while the construction progressed, contains 700 rooms, with a total floor area of 370,000 square feet, and its successful completion in less than one third of the time which would normally have been required is no empty tribute to the efficiency of the scientific coordination and control which has been applied to the task. Modern methods have been freely brought into service; ultra-violet rays will penetrate into the rooms; rubber flooring will contribute its special advantages; the artificial lighting will be exclusively of daylight quality. The requirements of a large staff have been amply and sympathetically considered; there is carving in the spirit of Grinling Gibbons and in the technique of the Wren period; the globe desk-lights bear a map of the world. These three representative facts in juxtaposition surely indicate that the company intends to advance beneath a banner inscribed "What is worth doing is worth doing well."

THE NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK

OF the \$2,000,000 required to erect and equip the new building of the Neurological Institute at the Medical Center, \$1,800,000 has been raised, and the trustees of the institute now seek \$2,000,000 additional for research.

The building, at Haven Avenue, 168th Street, west of Broadway, was dedicated on March 15 in the presence of distinguished neurologists from New York and other cities, officers of the institute and of Columbia University, officials of city and state, leaders in philanthropy and representatives of medicine and allied sciences.

The speakers included Robert Thorne, president of the institute; General William Barclay Parsons, chairman of the trustees of Columbia University; Commissioner Frederick W. Parsons, of the Department of Mental Hygiene of the State of New York, and Dr. Frederick Tilney, professor of neurology and neuro-anatomy in the Columbia Medical School.