

Universities and the Universities of Western Ontario, Toronto and British Columbia; hypothermia at the University of Toronto; surgery of heart and blood-vessels at McGill University and the Universities of Toronto and Montreal, and the Montreal Institute of Cardiology; tuberculosis at Dalhousie University, the Institute of Microbiology, Montreal, and the Connaught Medical Research Laboratories, Toronto; mental health at the Nova Scotia Department of Health, the Allan Memorial Institute at McGill University, the University of Toronto, Regina General Hospital and the University of British Columbia; virology, including poliomyelitis, at the Institute of Microbiology, Montreal, the Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto, and the Connaught Medical Research Laboratories; bacteriology, immunity and hypersensitivity at McGill University, the University of Montreal, Queen's University, the University of Western Ontario and the University of Toronto; cancer in all the medical schools. Recently a growing interest is noticeable in problems of radiobiology and in medical research carried out in collaboration with engineers. It should also be noted that medical genetics, particularly with respect to the study of congenital anomalies, is developing rapidly in various centres.

Subsection 4.—University Research

Although there is considerable diversity of purpose in the aims of Canadian universities and colleges, they may be described generally as (1) the diffusion of knowledge through some teaching, extension and evening classes, and written reports; (2) the preservation of knowledge with some reorganization from time to time; and (3) the extension of the boundaries of knowledge essentially through research.

There are, of necessity, differences in emphasis in carrying out these aims. The undergraduate courses are designed to provide broad basic understanding in a variety of subject fields, to be followed by a more extensive and intensive application in one or two of them. Graduate schools provide for a broader and deeper penetration and understanding in one field, supplemented perhaps with more general knowledge in related fields. Seminars, directed study, and individual research usually form a considerable part of advanced study. Most of these courses provide for practice in the research methods of the discipline—whether through experiment, questionnaire, logic or statistics—in order to prepare students capable of adding to present knowledge. This applies to the closely knit professional fields as well as to the more general branches.

For many years research in the universities was directed toward obtaining knowledge for its own sake and was considered pure research. Later it was recognized that the conclusions of such research provided the basic information for applied science and before long the universities, because of their unique position in having trained specialists and equipment, were involved in both basic and applied research. During World War II they were encouraged to undertake emergency and other contractual research and since then the trend toward broadening the field of research, increasing the capacity of universities to educate advanced students, and procuring large-scale costly equipment has shown rapid advance. This has created new problems but has provided even greater opportunities for undertaking sizable projects which could not have been attempted otherwise and has thereby tended to knit the university into the very warp of industry.

Research conducted in the universities falls into three broad categories: projects undertaken by the student under the guidance of a professor or committee to meet requirements for an advanced degree; research undertaken by the professor, which may be of a more or less continuous nature; and larger research projects undertaken co-operatively on a faculty or interfaculty basis in university laboratories or in such specialized institutions connected with the university as medical research laboratories, institutes of microbiology and hygiene, science service laboratories and faculties of agriculture.