RESEARCH FOUNDATIONS IN THEIR RELATION TO MEDICINE

At this time and place, medicine is the central interest, and therefore, so far as a layman can, it is my purpose to discuss "Research Foundations in their Relation to Medicine," and if possible to do this in such a manner as to reveal their significance to those for whose encouragement these ceremonies have been devised.

To accomplish this I intend first to ask you to consider the mental attitude necessary for the appreciation of research foundations and then to describe these foundations broadly—trying to indicate their relations to the universities; the problems which arise in connection with them; the dangers to which they are exposed; and their significance for the progress of medicine, for yourselves and for the development of the spirit of research.

You who are about to pass from the discipline of the school to a more self-dependent phase of your career feel both the fresh pleasure of restraints outgrown and a questing interest in the coming years. You feel too that, broadly speaking, what will happen to medicine during the next fifty years will also happen to you, and that at any moment some of you may be called upon to guide these happenings.

In the face of such responsibilities it becomes a duty as well as a wise precaution, to obtain the broadest possible view across your chosen field and to gain knowledge of the larger changes and improvements taking place within it.

You may have done this several times

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1Address at the graduation exercises of the Yale Medical School, June 17, 1912.
Science 36 (916), 65-96.