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Budget Needs of College Teachers

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The teacher has three groups of personal budget needs: those connected with his profession; those concerned with living expenses of self and family, and those necessary for financial security. Every one must meet his living expenses; every one who spends intelligently tries to provide for financial security; but professional needs represent items that do not appear in the average person's budget. The teacher who does research as well as teaching must keep in close touch with the progress of his subject and his profession, and this involves annual expenses that every teacher knows. He must also be adding to his subject by his own studies and research, and part of their cost with many workers comes back upon the private purse. He must also have a broad mental equipment and the personal and social resources of the traditional college teacher who deals with youth and desires to serve any intellectual or personal need that arises. Since the college teacher is responsible for the increase and dissemination of the knowledge necessary for civilization and for progress, society is concerned that he have personal income adequate to his function and that he administer his funds so as to function efficiently. In his professional expenditures the teacher is a public person, and even his private living conditions and his security are of public concern as far as they affect his work as teacher and researcher.

1 Symposium of invited papers read before a general session of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, New York, December 28, 1928.