ACADEMIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH IN
THE FIELD OF THERAPEUTICS

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We have to-day the privilege of assisting at the
formal inauguration of these Research Laboratories,
which the enterprise of a manufacturing house has
brought into being. I know that I can speak for all
those who are present, in saying to the directors
whose enlightened policy has provided these labora-
tories, and to the distinguished investigators who will
use them, that we wish them all the success which
they desire and deserve. And in wishing them success,
I have in mind not merely such as will directly in-
crease the efficiency and extend the scope of the in-
dustrial enterprise with which these laboratories are
associated, though that we may wish them without
reserve; but we may also wish them a wider and
more enduring success, in adding to the sum of life-
saving knowledge, for the benefit of all mankind.

1 An address delivered at the opening ceremony of the
Research Laboratories of Merek and Company, Inc.,
Rahway, New Jersey, April 25.

The word “research” in relation to industry has
been made to do duty over a wide range of meanings.
You would probably find some manufacturers who
apply the term to the mere experimental control of
the details of an unprogressive technical routine, or
of the quality of the materials used in it. At the
other end of the scale, this great country, in par-
cular, can show conspicuous examples of the far-
seeing policy of great industrial enterprises, in pro-
viding opportunity for men of world-wide fame in
science to follow freely the lead of their own original
genius, without any immediate reference to the pro-
duction of remunerative inventions. Results of the
greatest theoretical importance to science have thus
been obtained, which any university might be proud
to claim as the product of its laboratories of pure
research; but in some cases, at least, they have been
obtained under conditions which only the technical
resources of great industry could provide. I do not
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