CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

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We are here to-day to celebrate the opening of the Squibb Institute for Medical Research, which stands as a fitting tribute to Edward Robinson Squibb, the founder of this distinguished pharmaceutical organization. Dr. Squibb was an eminent physician and chemist and his name has become synonymous with certain ideals in medicine and pharmacy. The scientist's love for truth, so marked in him, and the painstaking and conscientious care of every detail of his activities led him to never neglect research and general scientific work, which he recognized as essential. Dr. Squibb's services to the army and navy, especially during the Civil War, were most significant, for he supplied them with highly dependable medical supplies and particularly anesthetics. His master formula was honor, integrity and trustworthiness. His work was such that no contemporary had to consider writing such a book as Christopher Merrett wrote in 1669 with the title, "A Short View of the Frauds and Abuses committed by Apothecaries; as well in Relation to Patients, as Physicians: and the only Remedy thereof by Physicians making their own Medicines." Dr. Squibb's published investigative studies extended from 1855 to 1900, in which year he died at the age of eighty-one. The studies concern especially the production and preparation of therapeutic substances which the physician prescribes and which must in final analysis be tested on human beings for their exact action and value—a form of clinical investigation.

It is a physician who undertakes clinical investigation, and I plan to consider a few general aspects concerning this subject especially as referable to the physician and patient.

1 Presented at the dedication exercises of the Squibb Institute for Medical Research, New Brunswick, N. J., on October 11, 1938.
Editor's Summary

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