CONTRASTS

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Any alumnus of Brown would be very sensible of the honor of being asked to take part in as important an event as we celebrate to-day. When I received the invitation to speak, my first impulse was to rejoice for the opportunity to express my gratitude for the abundant benefits Brown extended to me some thirty years ago. My second thoughts turned to dwell on the significance and meaning of the splendid Metcalf Research Laboratory, designed exclusively for graduate study and research.

That this addition had long been a practical necessity was clear these many years to those who have followed at first hand the rise of the department to a position of outstanding importance. Because of my nearness to the university and my membership on the department's visiting committee, it was easy to comprehend the time and patience expended under what henceforth will probably be referred to as "the old conditions." Professor Kraus and his colleagues will no longer spend valuable time in effecting the compromises required heretofore to provide adequate opportunities for a rising level of graduate students. It is a great joy to know that the efforts of the staff to promote the progress of graduate study and research will take place in a setting worthy of Brown University and of the man whose wisdom and generosity have made the dream of the research laboratory a reality.

Sometimes it is a salutary procedure to pause occasionally, as on the present occasion, to survey the steps which have led up to the present position. The exercise puts events in their proper relationship, promotes a decent humility, induces a just pride, emphasizes the eternal verities, makes for simplicity and enables one to lay the course for the future on a more assured basis.

Brown University was the seventh American college...
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