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THE PRESENT TENDENCIES AND METHODS OF PHYSIOLOGICAL TEACHING AND RESEARCH¹

SOME thirteen months ago, at my inaugural lecture at University College, London, an occasion which represented also the completion of the great gift which that college owes to the Rockefeller Foundation, I had the temerity to speak upon an analogous though narrower subject, "The present tendencies and the future compass of physiological science." I say narrower, since in that lecture I attempted to deal only with the side of research: to-day I am even more rash—I propose to lay down the law also on an aspect of the subject of which I am still less competent to judge, its rôle in education.

On the former occasion I was astonished to find, in spite of the nature of some of my conclusions, how little immediate opposition was aroused. None of my more conservative colleagues wrote to deplore my Bolshevistic tendencies: none of my older friends came to expostulate with me in private: the only public comment I evoked was one in the *British Medical Journal*, approving much of what I said, but somewhat reproachful because I had discussed only the science and not the teaching of physiology. I will try to remove that reproach this evening.

THE INTERNATIONALISM OF PHYSIOLOGY

On that previous occasion, as on this, I started by stressing the international nature of scientific relations. Science and medicine can progress only by being truly international, by utilizing the discoveries and experience of all workers in all lands, by creating that good feeling and understanding between men in every country, which is the basis of cooperation in study and research. Science is not a purely intellectual thing: the history of learning throughout the ages, up to the present time, is a sufficient witness of that truth. Like any human enterprise it depends upon the human factors of courage and persistence, of good will, fellowship, trust and comprehension. These human factors were the basis of the Rockefeller gift to University College, of which I spoke a year ago. No less are they the basis of the invitation with which you to-day have honored me, a stranger, in asking me to give this annual address.

You may reflect: "Why, surely such sentiments are not controversial, they will arouse no bitterness or

¹ Annual Gross Lecture to the Pathological Society of Philadelphia.

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