

Toronto, Ontario.
April 14th, 1908.

Dear Osler

I have yours of the 29th March and would have written to you before, explaining the situation here, but I was not free to express myself on it, as the President had the matter in hand.

Last year, owing to representations of my own, the University Authorities decided to create a chair of Pathological Chemistry, the occupant of which is to give instruction to the students of the 3rd, 4th and 5th years, on the Chemistry of Metabolism in disease. The University Governors made an appropriation to cover the cost of extending the laboratories in the Hospital and for the last four or five months we have been discussing the possible candidates for the Chair. The position was indirectly offered first to Gowland Hopkins of Cambridge, whose qualifications you know and who is probably the leading British Pathological Chemist on your side of the water. After considering it for a time he declined because his position at Cambridge had been considerably bettered by being made a tutor in Emmanuel. Then the qualifications of others were canvassed and finally it was agreed to negotiate with Leathes himself, but the latter is no doubt considering the situation.

What we will do should he decline has not yet been discussed, but the President and the Governors will have to take action some time soon in order that the appointment should be filled by October next. It is desirable, of course, to have a man for the post whose qualifications are not only scientific but also medical, for we have with us a number of people who seem to think that the latter is indispensable and who are Philistines enough not to understand that it is possible for a man to serve in the position who has no purely bedside qualifications.

The salary of the position will range anywhere from \$3,100 to \$4,000.

It is probable that my own department will be divided into Bio-Chemistry and Physiology, but that is not quite so urgent as the other matter, although no doubt it will be done, and I have been urging it.

The Chair in Pathological Chemistry has been created for the very purpose of giving a scientific term to the final professional subjects, and also to promote the development of the sciences at Toronto here, in spite of the reactionary tendencies of some of the members of the Faculty.