The university professors and other research men in chemistry, biology, physics, and related fields constitute a source of fundamental contributions to medicine that is as yet in large part unexploited. These men are men of ideas, who could make discoveries important to medical progress, if they are given an opportunity to devote part of their efforts to the search for new knowledge and to the medical field. For them to do so would not interfere with their freedom, but merely supplement the value of their efforts.

Their contributions to medicine are much more considerable in extent limited by their lack of knowledge of medical problems, lack of opportunity for testing advice on the originality and significance of their medical ideas in the medical field, lack of knowledge as to how to follow up their ideas, etc.

I propose that there be an permanent appointment of a Professor of Medical Research in, say, the chemistry department of a university where medical professors of chemistry are working. He would carry on his own work in some branch of basic medical research, would keep in touch with his colleagues, and would follow the progress of medicine, be available for discussion and collaboration, and in general strive to prevent the neglect of discoveries and ideas that might prove to be valuable.

I estimate that 10 or 20 chemistry departments could profitably be provided with such a man, and perhaps
President's Commission on Health Needs of the Nation.

901-111433  Mon 26 May 1952.

Reading of a proposed statement by Dr. Deamard.

I suggest explicit mention of research.

Keith Deamard suggested "training for practice and research.

Keep the talk. Dudley Jones. Not general but not deep. Sex, sex involved. Is knowledge being acquired at the optimum rate.

How can these rates be increased?

Research is the quality (I?) of acquiring knowledge.

Limitations of rate - supply of men, equipment, environment?

Examples of great progress: 1. Infants' disease, shell shock.

Theodore D. anterior -

2. Insulin

5. Antibiotics

physiology + chemistry

3. Liver

6. Mammalian hormones

4. Nutrition

Use of more basic chemical methods. St. Laski, nerve gels, etc. of proteins.

Breathing opportunities in proteins, hormone field, arteries + fatty deposits.

Also social aspects of medicine.

Education - Hopkins experience, Abraham Flexner's report on target research.

We must be aware of the danger of directing to applied levels those individuals who are capable of contributing at the basic level. Do we not in danger, exhausting our talents of fundamental knowledge quality of the scientist? Reap the evidence in line.

Personnel - we need 10,000 research men in industry. Why not in research?

Certification of M.D. is problem - 3 years. M.D. - economic problem. Ph.D. in basic sciences not sufficiently recognized.

Economic plight of our universities.

New 100,000 foundations in US (only 500 less than 1032 last). Projects - the more committing to paper of a detailed plan may so influence the scientist make one guilty as to lead to failure. Because of latter wrong decision is.

We must have multiple sources of funds.
Agenda. III. Importance of research.
IV. Basic concepts

Reported by Waterman, May, Gregg, Pauling, Fermi, Capt. Shilling, Allen Lancaster

Cameran said research may lead to new discoveries faster than they can be assimilated. I objected.

I do not think that special inter-field permanent job opportunities such as that which I propose would have the effect of forcing able men into fields in which they do not have great interest. There are many men interested in intermediate fields who, however, desire to settle into a conventional job.

I raised the point of increasing the number of trainee posts and apprenticeships.