## Many Tributes from Their Many Peers

A kind of triumvirate they were, and are, and we hope long will be even after formal retirement from the institution which they helped to build. Their being of my vintage, all three, Clair Bobier, Ted Fisher, and Bill Lyle, have been known to me throughout virtually all of my own academic career. During my semester at the University of Waterloo in the fall of 1980 I was able to confirm what I had long suspected. These three, without collusion, probably unwittingly, have long constituted the academic core of a beneficent power structure in Canadian optometry that has prevailed for well over three decades. Significantly out of their efforts, and keenly supported by their privately practicing friends throughout most of Canada, has emerged a School of Optometry which takes second place to none other in the world.

The administrative genius, the scientist and author, the teacher and mediator, each identifiable by his forte, but each also talented in the other avenues of service, provided a formidable strength of character to the school. Even now, for whatever unimaginable reason, and with the cooperation of continued good health and longevity, it would seem that if they chose to do so they could establish a viable new optometry school just about anywhere in Canada, rally the necessary support, and continue the production of highly qualified graduates anew. This they would surely never choose to do, basically because they probably never got together for the purpose of making a junta-like decision. They seek, understand, and respect each other's opinions but probably have never jointly engineered any kind of coup or intrigue. They simply share the same love for their profession, the same appreciation of the noblest goals of the practitioner, and the same dedication to quality education. They are now retired only because there are dates on the calendar.

Their simultaneous careers spanned what may well have been the most glorious era in North American optometry. The three of them, however quietly and gently, provided the kind of leadership that made the era glorious.

Henry W. Hofstetter Rudy Professor Emeritus of Optometry Indiana University

This issue of the Canadian Journal of Optometry is dedicated to three men whom I have known for many more years than I do care to remember. The happy, joyous times have been far longer than the unhappy ones. Elsewhere in this issue you will find biographies and details of their contributions and so I wish to write a few personal words from my heart rather than reiterate what others have written.

As one of the brethren, I am proud and pleased to welcome Ted, Clair, and Bill to the brotherhood of the emeritii because each, through his accomplishments, will add to the distinction of our small but worthy group.

You each played an important role in the metamorphosis of optometeric education from that characteristic of a skilled craft to that of a learned profession. Each contributed in his own way to the development of the educational program of material substance and

importance so that any student completing it would be worthy of a professional doctoral degree recognized by major universities, by governments, and by society. This was no mean task since you helped create something you did not initially have yourselves. You each transformed yourself from a clinician who taught part-time to a full-time professor with a deep continuing concern for the practice of optometry, and its scientific and clinical bases.

Anyone with eyes to see can see the Optometry Building on the Waterloo Campus, can read about the professional and academic programs in the catalog, and can watch patients come and go through the clinic. These physical facts are not the most important aspects of your accomplishments; they are only the outward manifestation of a deeper, driving force which you helped to fashion. It is this creative spirit which is important.

In your work together you have not lost your individuality and your special interests and particular skills within and without optometry and optometric (Ted and Bill and I know that it's really optometrical) education. To me you are three different individuals with different weaknesses and strengths. Here are my caricatures in words. Ted, your musicianship and your courteous, thoughtful and considerate manner have led me to picture you as a "gentleman and scholar". Clair, your slightly unpredictable and sometimes maddening absent-mindedness associated with flashes of deep insight have led me to picture you as "the professor". Bill, your penchant for every last detail but which does not fortunately cause you to lose sight of the whole has led me to picture you as "the editor" (If only you smoked a pipe and wore an eyeshade.)

I am pleased to have each of you as a friend and colleague. I am certain that this new occupation of emeritus will give you the time and opportunity to do something more rather than to retire in peace and quiet. Remember that you have built so well that things will continue to grow and expand even if you do take a little rest now and then. Congratulations and best wishes. May your hopes become realities and your faith visible.

Meridith A. Morgan former Director University of California at Berkeley

Ted Fisher, Clair Bobier and Bill Lyle . . . not part of optometry's passing scene . . . dammit, they were the scene.

Ted and Clair and Bill were there long before it (Waterloo) happened, they made it happen, and then they made sure that it kept on happening. Memorable and special people, and every optometrist in Canada owes them.

They leave a living monument, and I wish each of them happy success in their challenge. It was my pleasure to know them.

Jim Gilmore Executive Director, CAO, 1964-68. The retirement of Drs. E. Fisher, C. Bobier and W. Lyle marks a stage in the history of the School of Optometry that is worthy of note.

I say this mainly for two reasons:

- because the School, under their leadership, has gained a worldwide reputation for excellence; and
- (2) because of their great dedication to the work of the School, they have attracted faculty, staff and students of a caliber that guarantees a continuance of its fine reputation for teaching, research and public service.

To Drs. Fisher, Bobier and Lyle I extend congratulations for a job well done and I pray that they may live as long as they wish and have what they wish as long as they live.

J.G. Hagey President Emeritus University of Waterloo

While it is easy to establish that the contributions to optometry and optometric education of these three men extend over a combined period of almost 100 years, it is difficult to assess and express their contributions in terms of accomplishment, inspiration and dedication. While each is articulate and forceful and a person of eminent good sense and humour, their strengths and interests have been diverse. Clair Bobier's academic and clinical interests lay in the science of vision, and the strength of the physiological optics division at the School is largely due to his energy and persistence; Ted Fisher's interests have been in the field of contact lenses and optometrical optics, but at the same time his organizational abilities came to the fore during his long terms as dean of the College of Optometry and director of the School of Optometry, University of Waterloo; Bill Lyle has been attracted to the disciplines of ocular and general pathology, pharmacology and genetics and recently, as editor of the American Journal of Optometry, he has been able to direct his organizational abilities towards disseminating knowledge throughout the vision care professions. Throughout their careers their interests in academic and clinical optometry have been balanced by a vigorous concern for the organizations of optometric education and the welfare of the optometric profession. When I think back, it is amazing how they have both complemented each other and at the same time supported common ideals through their varied talents. Fortunately, we are not being deprived of their experience and skill, and the School looks forward to their continued support albeit in a different relationship.

Walwyn S. Long Professor and Director School of Optometry University of Waterloo

It was exactly 50 years ago when an eager young man presented himself, fresh out of high school, to enter the Profession of Optometry. No one at that time could foretell the influence this man would have on others in his chosen field. Edward J. Fisher — always affectionately known to his friends as Ted — armed with a brilliant mind, endless energy, and a sincere desire to help his fellow men immediately demonstrated his leadership and administrative ability.

In 1937 he was invited to join the clinical staff of the College of Optometry and soon became head of that department. Being an excellent musician he is widely known as an organist and choirmaster.

With the untimely loss of Dean Thompson in 1948 Ted was made Dean of the school and it was under his able guidance that the faculty and course content were prepared for the day when the College of Optometry would become part of the University of Waterloo and he would become the first director of the school.

During those years of preparation Ted managed to attract two unusually capable young Optometrists in the persons of Clair Bobier and Bill Lyle to join him. These men, both gifted teachers completed their work on their PhD's and since joining the faculty Optometrists on this continent and beyond have felt the strong sound stabilizing influence of these fine gentlemen.

In a short article of this kind it is impossible to relate in detail the contribution Professors Fisher, Bobier and Lyle have made through their profession of Optometry to mankind.

The retirement of these three Professors will leave a deep hole in the faculty at the school in Waterloo, which of necessity must be filled by younger capable Professors but the mark these men have made will always be remembered.

It is with sincere gratitude that I say thank you Gentlemen and all the best for years to come.

E. F. Attridge, O.D. former Chairman of the Board College of Optometry of Ontario

The profession of optometry will be sorely tried to replace the above three mentioned gentlemen who will be retiring from the School of Optometry at Waterloo University in June of this year. As one who has known all of them since the early thirties, who, in fact, went to school with them and in the rough years of 1935 to 1980, tried to build a legally recognized profession throughout the whole of Canada, it is not easy to marshal and express one's thoughts regarding their retirement. Probably this is one occasion when one should let his heart rule his thoughts rather than his mind.

Ted Fisher graduated one year ahead of me in the old College of Optometry on College Street in Toronto. I recall many of his classmates, the hazing they gave us as newcomers, the rather horrible conditions under which we received lectures and attended labs and yet, far outweighing the bad, the many good, wholesome times we had together. The true character of the man in those days was plain to see but I think many of us missed it. He was a dedicated student; a leader, not by force but by example; his musical talents, an asset then and I know an asset throughout his whole life, were shared freely with those of us who were in the College orchestra. I don't think there was ever any doubt in his mind that optometry was his chosen goal and, though I never heard him say so, teaching optometry was his way of achieving that goal.

As a Westerner I have always been somewhat ashamed of the fact that I and my cohorts did not give greater support to Ted's efforts to build a better College of Optometry and finally having the College accepted as a part of the University of Waterloo. On the other hand my shame dwindles when I consider our contribution to the Profession was more political and sociological. We cannot all make the same contribution! I have been everlastingly grateful that Ted Fisher, with great wisdom, never imposed this comparison or tried to use it as a lever to gain support for the ideals which were dearest to him.

He was a true friend, ever willing to give his time and talents to the betterment of the profession, well liked by all of us and I must add, was a really good sport. For myself and my wife we wish him and his family many happy years of retirement.

What can I say about Bill Lyle? I think I first met him at the CAO Meeting in Saskatoon in 1954. I call that meeting the "Ed Higgins" meeting because it was then that we decided to follow the ideas and recommendations arising out of his study and report on Canadian Optometry. Bill Lyle, newly out of the Armed Forces and the College of Optometry, hard pressed financially and with serious sickness in his family had consented to become President of the CAO. Despite all of his personal difficulties he carried on as President during an almost revolutionary period of restructuring and rebuilding of the CAO. In those vital years the financial structure of the CAO was established, the role of the national organization was developed, committees with terms of reference formed, provincial delegates and provincial meetings coordinated and a broad national plan devised. Bill Lyle was a leader in all these heady plans. Probably most of those who know him now would never suspect that he would be involved in these types of activities and I hasten to say, they are right. Why? Because we all know that Bill Lyle's first love was to learn, to study, and when he was satisfied, to teach. And this he did. In a way Bill Lyle epitomizes those ideals which are most essential to all of us, be we optometrists or plain Joes. I think he pursued knowledge for the sheer joy of learning and having accomplished that, his main concern and satisfaction was to pass it on to his fellow man. Where would we be without men like Bill Lyle? And supporting him, his wife and his family

And now, Clair Bobier. A brother of Tom Bobier, an optometrist who used to practise in Weyburn, Saskatchewan and later moved to Ontario. If you haven't met both, you have suffered a great loss. Sharing the friendship of both quadruples the pleasures of knowing each.

Clair Bobier must surely be considered the finely tuned scholar, the philosopher, the deliberate reasoner, searching for truth and meaning, looking for how it can be applied to everyday living. In my sphere of activities in optometry I did not encounter Clair Bobier very often. However I seemed to gravitate to him whenever I was in Toronto or elsewhere on CAO business and on such occasions we enjoyed quiet meaningful discussions about the role of optometry in society, what constituted "eyecare", how to best deliver it, what we are ultimately going to be doing as optometrists and what are the best plans for optometrical education? He was fond of quoting Don Quixote and other writers. He had a unique ability to use aphorism and similes which were most pertinent to whatever we were talking about. I always had a vague feeling that he should have been teaching philosophy! He may correct me on that. Nevertheless, he, like Bill Lyle and Ted Fisher, decided that optometry was to be his chosen calling and it is my opinion that Canadian society is the better for that decision.

Those who decided to do what these three have done, to spend a lifetime in education, to commit themselves to the pursuit of disseminating knowledge, to sacrifice personal gain which others of us found more satisfying, and finally, to now find some measure of satisfaction in retirement, deserve our gratitude, our best wishes and above all our respect.

I am most happy to add these words to the many which I am sure will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Harold Coape-Arnold CAO Past President

The University of Waterloo has enjoyed 25 years of growth and development, beginning with a dream and a cornfield and leading to a major university with 20,000 students, 730 teaching faculty, 2,500 staff and a beautiful campus. A better measure of achievement is in the calibre of our students, the quality of our programs and the intense activity in research and other scholarly activity.

This year as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary we are paying tribute to our founders and others who joined the University in its early years. The chances of success of a new university are never all that good, so all of these people were taking a considerable risk in making a commitment to Waterloo. When asked why, the common response is that from the first, Waterloo seemed to encourage daring and innovation in all its functions and operations.

The School of Optometry is a good example of risk-taking and success at Waterloo. The move to Waterloo in 1967 raised serious doubts in both parties. The School was not well known to us and surely the University of Waterloo could not have looked like the ideal home for the executives of the School. Nevertheless the move was made. Both sides accepted the risk. The outcome has been another success of which we all are immensely proud. The professional optometric organizations at both the Provincial and National Levels have every right to be proud as well, for their support has been a very important element in the success of the School.

But, as in all other successful ventures at Waterloo, the major element in the success of the School of Optometry must be attributed to the people who make the place run. Three of the members of the faculty of the School who contributed in a major way to every achievement of the School are (officially) retiring on June 30th of this year. Clair Bobier, Ted Fisher and Bill Lyle have our deep respect and sincere admiration for their dedication, unending efforts, judgement and firm leadership, in moving the school to the prestigious status it enjoys today.

Excellent students compete each year for the 60 openings in the professional program. The Optometry clinic serves 24,000 patients a year on the campus and many others in other institutions. This provides excellent training and experience to advanced students. The research activity is growing fast and provides the essential element of scholarship and a means of preparing young optometrists for academic positions. And of course the School, and particularly Dr. Bobier, Dr. Fisher and Dr. Lyle have served faithfully in professional and community affairs.

The School of Optometry at Waterloo is now recognized as one of the best in the whole of the Western World. Standards in every area are very high; the commitment is strong; the achievement makes Waterloo a better University.

These three gentlemen have contributed a total of one hundred and twenty-six years of service to the profession of Optometry. The School of Optometry at Waterloo is a monument to this service and we are proud to acknowledge our debt to Professor Bobier, Professor Fisher and Professor Lyle.

Douglas Wright President University of Waterloo On the occasion of the retirement of Drs. Bobier, Fisher and Lyle from active duty at the University of Waterloo, I should like to wish them very many years of happiness and good health and to make a few comments.

I have known all three of them for more than 20 years, both as one of their students and for many years now, as a colleague. They are obviously of about the same age, but they have a good deal more in common. All three became optometrists and all three practised for some time. All three also felt the need, both to fulfil a personal ambition and to improve the academic aspect of our discipline. Thus they lectured at the Toronto College and realised that a University Higher Degree was indispensable, which all three acquired. They then devoted themselves to an academic career, not only full time, but body and soul to the only English speaking optometric training institution in Canada.

Many of the dreams which eventually became reality were of their making. They complemented one another. And what an achievement. The College of Ontario was integrated into an important University. A four-year course was established. A University Doctorate in Optometry was granted. A graduate course leading to Higher Degrees was set up. And to their glory and to that of the profession, they are leaving behind a monument as the magnificent optometry building at the University of Waterloo can be aptly described.

To those not familiar with University matters, I should say that the above achievements are truly remarkable. Those people who have been trying to establish a third school of Optometry, will attest to it. Moreover, it must also be remembered that it is people who make a School and not buildings and facilities. To that end, all three spared no time or energy encouraging young people to envisage an academic career, to help young optometrists to pursue a course leading to Higher Degree and finally to recruit the superb Faculty that there is at Waterloo today.

Their enthusiasm, for academic optometry, and professional optometry as well, has never ceased to amaze me. I cannot see how we shall emulate their example in future, since all three, although of such diverse temperament, succeeded in making a working unit of tremendous power.

I can only hope that retirement is only from University duties and that they will still play a role in helping us confront the problems which optometry is facing today. Nevertheless, I wish them plenty of happiness and time to rest, to ponder, to fish, to paint, to play the organ, to travel, to deliver occasional lectures, to edit Journals, to write, etc., for many years to come.

Michel Millodot O.D., PhD, Professor and Head of Department of Optometry, UWIST, Cardiff. UK.

Readers might well circle June 30, 1982 on their calendars as marking a watershed in the history of optometrical education in Canada. On that date three men whose combined service to the training of men and women for the profession totalled 126 years retired from professorial appointments at the University of Waterloo. These appointments were preceded by many years of service at the College of Optometry in

Toronto. One of the three, E. J. Fisher, served as dean of the College from 1948 until 1967 and director of the new School of Optometry from 1967 to 1973. A recognized expert in optometrical optics, Ted Fisher has devoted something close to 40 per cent of his life to managing the affairs of that educational facility. Clair Bobier has an enviable expertise in physiological optics, and has left as a lasting landmark at Waterloo the Optometry building for which he was chairman of the building committee. Bill Lyle's reputation is based on his authoritative knowledge of ocular pathology and pharmacology, and of late he has served as editor of the American Journal of Optometry and Physiological Optics.

These three men comprised three-quarters of the teaching staff transferred from Toronto to Waterloo in 1967. Incidentally, the other quarter, Dr. W. S. Long, now serves as Director of the School at Waterloo. It was the writer's good fortune to have a very close working relationship with these four men during the feasibility studies which preceded the transfer of the College of Optometry to Waterloo, and subsequently with setting the school in place within the Faculty of Science there. It would be no exaggeration to state that their integrity and immediate readiness to adapt to the style and practice of the University of Waterloo quickly won for them the position of good friends and respected colleagues. On behalf of their associates in many departments of the University it is a privilege to thank them and to wish each the satisfaction of a well-earned retirement.

W.A.E. McBryde Department of Chemistry University of Waterloo

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There are two principal sources of data on which one must depend if one is to evaluate properly the contributions of Drs. Bobier, Fisher, and Lyle, to Canadian Optometry. The first of these sources is the pool of scientific knowledge from which our profession draws its life blood, and the second is the sociological evolution of the optometrist as a health care professional.

Thanks to the influence of my optometrist father, I have been an interested observer of the eye care scene for almost fifty years, and since I did not do my undergraduate work at the Ontario College, I can claim a lack of bias when it comes to evaluating the impact that the careers of these three men has had on our profession.

Apart from its obvious demands on intelligence and curiosity, Dame Science requires of her followers a degree of intellectual integrity and perseverance that not all can attain. The greatness of spirit that is reflected in the lives of Bobier, Fisher and Lyle, is a measure of their willingness to accept these requirements. As they laboured under the physical and financial restrictions of the St. George Street campus, they must often have been tempted to accept the choice of second best. Excellence is more often a goal than an achievement, but dedication to its pursuit is the mark of a great teacher. Seldom have three such different men been so unanimous in the display of that dedication. In an era when the woods were full of "how-to-do-it" lecturers, Ted Fisher and his staff always seemed to be able to implant a little of the "why" into their graduates.

As a boy I remember feelings of embarrassment when people asked about my father's occupation: first I would have to teach the enquirer how to spell 'optometrist', and then try to explain what the word meant.

Surely the evolution of optometrists to their present position in the community is a living monument to the teachers who have shared their dreams with their students. There may be some difficult choices ahead. But considering the obstacles that Clair Bobier and Ted Fisher and Bill Lyle have overcome on our behalf, today's practitioners should have nothing to fear but their inability to repay the debt that they owe to such men.

Austin Forsyth Saskatoon, Saskatchewan former C.A.O. Councillor

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Il me fait plaisir de rendre un témoignage de respect et d'amitié aux Drs Ted Fisher, Clair Bobier et Bill Lyle, trois précurseurs de l'optométrie canadienne aujourd'hui à la retraite. Une génération d'éducateurs est en voie de disparaître et j'en éprouve une certaine peine. Toutefois, une grande joie se mêle à cette tristesse, joie de me relier à ceux qui ont rendu des services aussi éminents à la profession d'optométrie.

Les Drs Fisher, Bobier et Lyle ont représenté pour tous les optométristes un symbole de continuité dans l'histoire et d'espoir dans l'avenir. Ils se sont manifesté comme des hommes de travail constamment dévoués pour toutes les causes qui leur ont été soumises. Ces hommes au dévouement inlassable ont prêté leur concours à toutes les personnes et à tous les organismes qui ont oeuvré pour l'avancement de l'optométrie.

Universalistes reconnus pour leurs préoccupations des problèmes humains de notre société, ils ont su s'engager à fond et vivre pleinement la réalité optométrique et j'estime que nous pouvons les citer comme un idéal à poursuivre et un modèle à imiter dans l'action.

Cet hommage à trois personnalités qui vivent, qui ont vécu toute leur carrière intensivement au sein de la cité universitaire, c'est aussi un témoignage rendu par tous les optométristes québécois et canadiens qui ressentent envers eux des sentiments de gratitude et d'affection pour l'exemple infatigable de dévouement désintéressé qu'ils ont donné au service de leur profession.

L'époque qu'ils ont traversée en se signalant de façon remarquable a vu éclater la somme de nos connaissances des racines et des fondements de la science optométrique et pendant plusieurs décennies, ils ont été au coeur même de l'évolution de notre profession.

Ils furent largement responsables de l'établissement et de l'épanouissement de l'Ecole d'Optométrie de l'Université de Waterloo et ceux qui ont bénéficié de leurs précieux enseignements les ont considérés comme des "maitres" dans le domaine optométrique.

Les Drs Fisher, Bobier et Lyle ont été une source d'inspiration constante pour la profession d'optométrie en montrant quels résultats peuvent être obtenus lorsque la science est appliquée à l'habileté clinique pour le plus grand bien de la population.

Je les remercie d'avoir toujours été attentifs à leur milieu, d'avoir été des guides professionnels dont le leadership et la sagesse ont inspiré plusieurs générations d'optométristes.

D'où la conviction que malgré ce repos bien mérité, ils demeureront actifs et disponibles pour notre communauté.

Dr Claude Gareau, optométriste Secrétaire et Directeur général de l'Ordre des optométristes du Québec When the history of Canadian Optometry is written, three of its outstanding leaders will be remembered not only for their contribution to their profession, but also to their dedicated leadership at a particularly difficult time when Optometry was achieving the recognition it really deserves.

Dean Ted Fisher and Professors Clair Bobier and Bill Lyle of the staff of the School of Optometry at the University of Waterloo have served a total of one hundred and twenty-six years in guiding and developing the curriculum of the College.

Now that they are retiring it is fitting that we who knew them and respected them for their qualities of leadership should pause and in some small way record what they and their wives have done.

That Optometry has reached a new standard of academic excellence and public and governmental recognition is due in no small measure to the work of these three optometrists who gave of themselves and their skills so unselfishly that their profession might prosper.

Ted Fisher, Clair Bobier and Bill Lyle in their retirement years can look back upon a life of service to Optometry with a quiet but rightfully earned sense of satisfaction.

Optometry salutes these men and acknowledges with gratitude what they have done. Optometry will always be better for the leadership they provided.

Ed Higgins
CAO Executive Director — 1952-1963

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Optometrists, like other independent professionals, tend to have an aversion to compulsory retirement.

We may practice our profession until it suits us to phase out our involvement. We may even continue actively until claimed by ill health or the undertaker. For some of our colleagues, whose calling is to teach, an arbitrary time arrives when they are required to turn in their chalk and clean out their desk. This is what happened to three of our very good friends Ted, Clair, and Bill. Doctors Fisher, Bobier and Lyle have been accorded the honourable heave-ho, and we who are observers can only lament. They have been builders, pillars, mainstays, makers, and shakers of our profession, yet such is the scheme of things that for some to receive deserved promotions and advancement, others must be set aside. Their accomplishments are too numerous to mention in this item, and they have not necessarily been equal in prominence or recognition, yet all three have demonstrated an involvement and dedication to the profession which has been total.

They have been our friends, confidantes, sparring partners, reservoirs of wisdom and knowledge. These attributes will be undiminished by their retirements. We presume that with fewer demands on their time from the school, they will turn their energies to the pursuits which interest them most. We hope this will include the writing of fatherly (or scholarly) articles in the journal to pass along their knowledge and insights. We especially hope they will find their retirement years stimulating, productive, healthful and happy.

Donald R. Price, O.D. C.A.O. President 1955-57.

Le milieu de l'éducation et, en particulier, celui de la formation professionnelle ont été en constante évolution depuis le début du siècle. Et cette évolution a été très rapide, fulgurante même, compte tenu des changements apportés par la technologie, les découvertes scientifiques et des nouveaux besoins sociaux auxquels ont dû faire face les professions.

Dans le domaine de la formation en optométrie, trois de nos collègues méritent aujourd'hui notre admiration et notre gratitude: les Docteurs Ted Fisher, Clair Bobier et William Lyle de l'Ecole d'optométrie de l'Université de Waterloo. Ils ont été, tous trois, piliers de cette formation professionnelle avec beaucoup de courage, une compétence indiscutable et une confiance en l'avenir malgré la "révolution" qui grondait dans le monde scientifique. Ils ont d'ailleurs participé à ces nombreux changements survenus dans les programmes de formation en optométrie pour améliorer sans cesse la qualité des diplômés se destinant à la pratique de cette profession. Chacun, dans son domaine, a réalisé une grande oeuvre, soit celle de former des professionnels de la santé possédant, à leur image, les connaissances nécessaires à leur bonne intervention auprès de leurs patients et le souci de bien répondre aux exigences de ceux-ci.

Le Dr Ted Fisher, a dirigé les destinées de l'Ecole d'optométrie de l'Université de Waterloo pendant de nombreuses années et son dévouement à la cause et son dynamisme ont permis cet essor vers une grande réussite. Les Drs Clair Bobier et William Lyle ont aussi fait partie de l'équipe du début. Et ils ont aussi, en tant que professeurs et administrateurs, rendu des services inestimables à leur école d'optométrie, à leur université, à leurs collègues et à leur profession.

Aujourd'hui, ils doivent quitter . . . après avoir accompli leur devoir comme il le faut et comme il se doit. Pour cela, nous leur disons sincèrement: Merci! Ils doivent laisser leur place à d'autres . . . mais ils seront difficiles à remplacer; il ne faudrait pas croire que les collègues plus jeunes n'ont pas aussi une grande compétence et un aussi grand désir de travailler à la formation de leurs futurs collègues de s'intéresser aux travaux de recherche; les Fisher, Bobier et Lyle leur auront bien indiqué le chemin.

Toutefois, même s'ils partent . . . je sais qu'ils restent. Ils seront toujours là, à l'affût, pour rendre service, pour aider leurs collègues, pour servir la profession avec la même fougue et le même intérêt qui les ont caractérisés pendant de nombreuses années. Je connais trop bien ces hommes et je sais qu'il ne leur sera pas possible de faire autrement . . . c'est l'essence même de leur vie . . . Oh! ils ralentiront sans doute un peu le rythme et ce sera bien mérité . . . mais il ne fait aucun doute que nous pourrons toujours compter sur Ted, Clair et Bill . . . Ils resteront nos conseillers et nos amis.

Je joins ma voix à celle de tous les optométristes canadiens pour présenter aux Docteurs Fisher, Bobier et Lyle, des remerciements sincères pour leur apport incommensurable à la formation et à la recherche en optométrie ainsi qu'à leur profession.

Claude Beaulne Directeur, Ecole d'Optométrie Université de Montréal

