

*Return to Toronto office June 1967*

*W. Michener*  
~~Dr. Michener~~, Dr. Wingston, Mr. Gairdner, Honored Guests, Ladies and

Gentlemen.

I deeply appreciate the honor that the Gairdner Foundation has conferred upon me. Previous recipients of the Gairdner Award, by their accomplishments have contributed much to medical science. To be included in this group is a recognition which I shall always remember, and for which I am grateful to you.

*... the artist always used an assumed name to sign the pictures that he painted. The reason was that no one other than the artist would know who created the picture, and so people then could never directly criticize or reward the artist for his work. The artist then would always be free--he could never be punished directly, and he could never be corrupted by praise.*

Certainly the concepts of freedom and creation for the sake of creation are ideals to cherish. But contrast this philosophy with the fundamental philosophy of science. *... the search for truth.* Certainly ~~one of the most magnificent~~ aspects of science, ~~of true beauty~~, is the devotion of the practitioners of science to truth. The essential factor in this process is that each

individual accepts personal responsibility for the correctness of his work. Every scientist labors long and hard to be sure that his findings and his interpretation of facts are correct. For his colleagues judge his scientific ability on the basis of what he creates or what he strives to create.

The basic values of the scientific community are simple and good.

At the very heart of the philosophy though, is that the individual strives for truth and <sup>publicly</sup> accepts full responsibility ~~publicly~~ for his work. The individual then is freely available to everyone in the scientific community and can be punished by criticism or rewarded by praise, <sup>so</sup> constructive criticism plays an essential role in the scientific community and praise, which is far less frequent than criticism is also needed for balance.

As for the possibility<sup>y</sup> that the scientist can be corrupted by praise, I can only say that I do not know anyone who has been adversely affected by praise.