



MCGILL UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Arts and Science  
Department of English

January 16, 1933.

Dr. Ira MacKay,  
Dean of the Faculty of Arts,  
Arts Building,  
McGill University.

Dear Dean MacKay:

With reference to your letter of January 12th, the Department of English begs to suggest that you select from the thirteen topics mentioned in the Principal's letter to you six subjects which in your judgment would be suitable for the Confederation essays. The department is in agreement with your comments on the first six topics, all of which seem to us to be too technical and too difficult for adequate treatment in a brief essay. With reference to topic seven,, "Sir John Macdonald and Confederation", we had in mind not so much "a true historical, biographical portrait of Sir John", as your letter interprets it, but rather a discussion of Sir John's careful preparation of the various sections of the country previous to the actual conferences, the difficulties he had to overcome, his discussions with the British authorities and his disappointment with their reaction, his original plan, and the subsequent changes etc., etc.

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Sgd1 Cyrus Macmillan

Chairman of the Department of English.

CM:EE