

The Montreal Daily Star

"CANADA'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER"

MONTREAL, CANADA

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*Copy when
reopening month*

Sir Arthur Currie,
Principal,
McGill University,
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur:

There was a time when McGill authorities, except when they wanted something, kept the press of this city very coldly at arm's length, persistently refused information of public interest, and let us understand their conviction that McGill was a private institution in which the common public had no concern.

For instance, we used to have a lot of trouble getting weather reports from the McGill Observatory under Mr. McCloud. He frankly resented being questioned and generally made it unpleasant for reporters who had to go and see him. As he was on the one side an employee of the University and on the other an employee of the Government, it was difficult to get at him.

Conditions recently have been different, very much different in all respects, I am glad to say, but today some friction developed between our City Desk and Mr. Weir, at the Observatory, which I think should be called to your attention before it develops into any permanent feeling of mutual resentment. I don't know how far our City Editor was in the wrong. Generally there are two angles to a dispute like this, but I enclose his report to me for your information and enquiry. I may add that the story he was after had to do with a discrepancy of 17 degrees yesterday between the McGill thermometer and the Hearn and Harrison record downtown. He wanted to find out if the difference in elevation could account for that much difference in the level of the mercury.

While I am on this topic I would like to suggest that in connection with the research work at McGill, Medical, Mechanical and Scientific, there must be a great deal of general public as well as of scientific interest - facts that