

MCGILL UNIVERSITY

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MONTREAL

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISHREPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH.

formances, and during this time it is scarcely possible for us to do any laboratory work because of the properties and scenery that occupy the stage. Students in our drama classes constitute our "stage crew"; they are trained to handle scenery and lights,-- to "set" the stage and to "strike" or remove scenery. Every non-academic performance and concert requires their presence, or the presence of several of them, to change scenes. The result is a somewhat unfair burden on students and staff, but a burden which the Department must carry in the absence of a regular paid crew.

HONOURS COURSES: In general, students enter upon Honours Courses at the beginning of the Second Year, and occasionally at the beginning of the Third Year. Honours Courses are given in English Language and Literature and in English and cognate subjects, -- English and another language, or History, or Philosophy. While English alone offers a variety of courses and topics,-- language and literature from the seventh century to the present day, a curriculum in itself,-- students taking this course are encouraged to take one course in an allied or cognate subject in the third and the fourth year. This plan is usually followed.

The Department is not in accord with the suggestion that Honours Courses should begin in the First Year. The gulf between school and college is still very wide; methods of instruction are very different; a student's interests may greatly change after he enters the University, and it is doubtful if a student can fairly select in his school years the subject of study for which he is best fitted. It seems to us that in the present condition of High School or Secondary Education in Canada the first two years of the College course should be devoted to a general back-ground cultural course upon which later specialization could be more wisely