

McGILL UNIVERSITY
MONTREAL.

FACULTY OF ARTS.
OFFICE OF THE DEAN.

May 26, 1922.

Sir Arthur Currie,
Principal, McGill University.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I talked at length with Mr. Stephen, the elocutionist, whom you sent to me the other morning, or rather Mr. Stephen talked at length to me. The substance of his proposal is that he should have a class of 15 or 20 boys two or three times a week next year for instruction in public speaking. These students would be drawn from the ranks of the 3rd Year. In the following year, according to his theory, they should be equipped to instruct the general body of the students in the art of speaking. So far as I could make out, Mr. Stephen does not expect much money (though he declined to go into this part of the subject with me on the ground that he had fully informed you), but wants McGill to give him the rank of full professor. It seems that he is preparing a book which shall embody his theories of elocution and he thinks that the prestige of a McGill professorship will redound to the advantage of his publication. He did not state this in so many words, but it seemed to me pretty clear that this is the idea in his mind.

I do not think that his proposal is in any way practicable. The 3rd Year students whom he would instruct would