

Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., (continued)

administrations with the desirability and feasibility of doing something. The Railway representatives found difficulty in the precedent it would create. There are of course from time to time transcontinental tours undertaken by British groups which might point to the precedent if only the B.A.A.S. were favored. It would be a long time however before the Railways would be called on to do anything for such a representative international group. Whether for the higher administration officials of the railways the precedent argument would in any way be modified by this fact I do not know. There is also of course the fact that the inability of the members of the deputations to finance long excursions out of their own pockets is due not alone to war conditions but to these combined with their having adopted a profession which implies renunciation of emoluments and hard work for the benefit of all.

After receipt of M. Picard's letter I expect to know better what will meet the wishes of the International Research Council and the International Mathematical Union in regard to form of procedure. Would it seem well to you for the Congress to regard as their hosts McGill University, the University of Toronto and the Royal Canadian Institute together with the University of Montreal in deference to the French Canadians?

Yours sincerely,

J. C. Fields