

Montreal, P.Q.  
September 30, 1924.

Faculty of Dentistry,  
McGill University,  
Montreal.

Gentlemen:-

It is the desire of the undersigned, members of the Undergraduate body of the Faculty of Dentistry, to bring to your immediate attention a matter which has long been a topic of conversation for those who have the welfare and advancement of Dental Education at heart. It is not a new subject but one which has been a problem of long standing, a problem which has, I believe, required much careful consideration on the part of Dental Educationalists to solve successfully.

The fairest means of grading the practical work of the students for their transition from one class to the one higher up. This is the problem.

A solution, to which we wish to direct your attention, is the installation of a system whereby each student in the infirmary has to complete, before the end of the term, a specified number of each class of dental operations, which operations shall be marked, step by step, as performed, and students classified according to their ability to produce satisfactory work. This system is commonly known as the "point system" and has replaced the final examination system in many of the large Dental colleges, such as Toronto, Northwestern, Chicago, etc. The inward workings of this system may be, perhaps, best ascertained from a report on the subject which we would suggest be required from the Director of the Infirmary on his return from the proposed tour of colleges where the "point system" prevails. The obvious benefits to be reaped by replacing the prevailing system of final practical examinations by the "point system" are as follows:-

1. A reduction in the yearly expenditure of the faculty, since the examination of work will be undertaken during the term, and by officials of the college in the course of their regular duties, eliminating the fees paid to special examiners at the end of the term. This is an item deserving of consideration.

2. Undergraduates in the final year of their course, who intend to practise in other Provinces will not be required to undergo the nerve-racking ordeal of two final practical examinations- one to satisfy the