

C O P Y.

456 Pine Avenue W.,

July 30th, 1929.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

In bringing before you the following remarks and recommendations the thing uppermost in my mind is the desire that in the future there should be a close co-operation between the Principal of the University and the Director of Music. We of the Music staff have felt that our corner has been remote from the centre of the campus, not only in location, but in the all-important matter of interest. There has always been the feeling, however, that this interest could be awakened and cordially felt if it were cordially sought. And in the new conditions which the future holds for us I am sure that that interest will be sought.

May I say, also, that I regard the future of the Conservatorium with assurance, confidence? During the past few years the institution has not prospered. It has steadily declined. But the infusion of new blood, the forming of a vigorous policy, and the invoking of local interest and support should go far to make for a renewal of its usefulness.

I have the following remarks to make. The Conservatorium must be the centre of the city's music. This will result from its own activities if vigorously and rightly directed. It must not be indifferent, however, to Montreal musical activities which are not directly parented by it. There exist in our city, musical clubs, orchestral bodies, choral societies, and the like, which are functioning well. These must be made to feel that they are being watched appreciatively by McGill, and that they may depend on the Conservatorium and its students for some measure of support.

Active steps must be taken to secure the interest of the better classes of Montreal residents in the various courses of instruction offered by the Conservatorium. Ways and means to secure this interest must be found, and the Director must give some thought to this matter.

The affiliation of Arts and Music as exists at present at McGill is on right lines, and with more attention given it, especially in the direction of attractive lectures, should accomplish the purpose sought by those who planned the course. It is still in its experimental stage, and during the next year or so careful watching will be necessary. There should be no hesitation shown in recasting the course if need arises.