

A Statement for Presentation to The Secretariat of The League of Nations,  
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The Department of Chinese Studies, McGill University

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China, during the past century, by furnishing raw materials and man power, has contributed largely to the development of Europe and the New World; China has provided a market for overseas commerce and manufactured goods, which has speeded modern industrialism and capitalism. But more than this, China has been a source of inspiration in art and philosophy and has contributed ideas and ideals which are very old in her own history but quite new to outsiders, and it is not surprising that the teaching of Chinese subjects in European and American universities has been progressing rapidly in the last quarter of a century.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT: McGill University is the first, and so far the only Canadian institution to establish a Chinese Department, with a Chinese scholar as a full professor for its Director. The establishment of this Department was inspired by the obvious need for closer relationship and more direct and frequent intercourse between Canada and China, culturally as well as commercially, and by the presence of the Best Chinese Research Library since 1925. This new field of study initiated by the University authorities with such farsightedness has been backed and encouraged by the public at large with moral and material support.

COURSES: The Department of Chinese Studies offers regular university courses to the students of second year or of higher standing in the Faculty of Arts and Science. A lecture course on Chinese culture in general is given in English as an introduction to all branches of Chinese studies. It outlines Chinese history, geography, government and social institutions, philosophy, religions, literature and art in a series of lectures completed in two academic years of