

Students

November 3rd, 1926.

Dr. Gerald Olmsted,
Children's Hospital,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Olmsted:-

Let me acknowledge receipt of
your letter of November 1st.

I regret that the Committee
which has to do with the forwarding of recommendations
for positions in the Colonial services found it in-
advisable to forward yours. Let me say that I have
always been a member of the Committee which deals with
applications by McGill men. In fact I had much to do
with inducing the Colonial Office to admit the graduates
of Canadian universities to these positions. The
Colonial Office attaches a very great deal of importance
to the selection of these candidates after personal
interview and it was on that point that I had some
difficulty in persuading them that we can pick the men
just as well here. We have always insisted on an
unusually high standard because we wished to establish
and maintain the confidence of the Colonial Office.

The Committee has never yet given
to a candidate the reasons why his application was not
forwarded and I am quite sure they never will. If you
give the matter a little more thought you will see that
it is quite impossible for a Committee to put itself
in a position where it must explain to every candidate
the exact reason why his application was not recommended.
I can, however, give you the assurance that there was
nothing whatever against your personal character, nor
the slightest suspicion that you would ever do anything
to bring discredit upon yourself or dishonour upon your
university. Not at all; it was considered that you had
many excellent social qualities.