

McGill Union.

Every Graduate of McGill University is asked to read the present circular and to consider carefully the facts which it contains.

I.

During the past ten years a large number of Graduates' Societies have been founded by McGill men living in different parts of Canada and the United States. In each case the aim has been, apart from social considerations, to foster a McGill tradition and to unite Graduates in some work which might be of advantage to the University. At first the generosity of these Societies assumed the form of a scholarship or a prize, but recently there has been a disposition, in more than one quarter, to contribute towards a larger gift. What form the gift should take was at first an open question, but it was felt that the time had come for the four thousand Graduates of McGill to show their loyalty by works as well as words.

The project of a McGill Union took definite shape in Boston, the headquarters of the New England Graduates' Society. After consultation with leading authorities of the University and with several Graduates living in Montreal, Mr. H. Holton Wood and Mr. A. E. Childs offered to contribute \$5,000 each as the nucleus of a fund. It was the deliberate conviction of those consulted that in view of existing necessities and the probable amount of the fund which could be collected, no other gift would be so valuable to the University as a Union. Accordingly Messrs. Wood and Childs headed a fund for the erection of a McGill Union, making it a condition of their subscriptions that a minimum sum of \$65,000 should be subscribed by other Graduates.

II.

It should be unnecessary to dwell upon the benefits which McGill would derive from a Union. The dearth of social ties among the students was recognized by every one of us when he was at college and was universally deplored. When we contrast McGill with the universities of Great Britain or the United States, no single deficiency seems so glaring as the lack of intercourse among the students after