

McGILL UNIVERSITY

3.

Office of the Principal
and Vice Chancellor

publish the results at the same time. Furthermore, that if the original marking of the examiners is changed, either by the University authorities or by the Provincial authorities, we should exchange this information. If this is done, the University will agree to accept pro tanto the results as approved by the Department of Education.

This brings up the question discussed by the special Sub Committee of the Protestant Committee which met at the University last Saturday morning. While I admit to having a repugnance to the revision of marks, I know that it is necessary under certain circumstances: but if it is to be done at all, I think I would rather have it done by a Committee than by consultation between the examiner, the associate examiner and the high school inspector. I believe the proper balancing of standards in examination papers and in marks would be more satisfactorily done by a Committee of five, chosen for their ability, experience and integrity, than by pairs of examiners working with the high school inspector. When I say "satisfactorily done", I mean done to the satisfaction of all concerned, i.e., the public, the pupils, the University authorities and the Department. If I were the high school examiner I would prefer that a Committee take the responsibility of preserving that balance, rather than that I should assume it myself. At least, that is my opinion.

The arrangement suggested by Dr. Percival might work out all right. He says it is the practice followed in Ontario. But we must remember that in Ontario the Department alone conducts the examinations for entrance to the universities. Here, we have the School Leaving certificate and the Matriculation certificate. There is more involved here than there. I would like to vote for Dr. Percival's suggestion, because he has proposed it, and my disposition is to back up the Superintendent when I can. But my considered opinion now is that we should continue for a while the High School Leaving Board, making it a small strong Board, to whom we could give the sole responsibility for the conduct of these examinations and all that is involved therein. I agree that the High school inspector should be a member of that Board, and I think there should be not more than four other members. Given a strong Board, which has complete responsibility for the examiners, I do not think any question will arise in the future as to the evaluation of the papers set and the marks awarded.

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.