

The writer in collaboration with the Research Engineers of the General Electric Co. Schenectady, and consulting with American Astronomers, has under consideration a plan for the development of Astronomy and Astronomical Research at McGill University. In preliminary conversations with Dr. Meldrum Stewart, Director of the Dominion Observatory, Ottawa, the possibility of the Ottawa Observatory and its resources being placed at the disposal of McGill University for practical astronomical work and research in co-operation with the Physics Department is now being carefully and favourably considered. This is a revival of far-reaching plans for astronomical work at McGill initiated about 1901 and unfortunately dropped, although McGill still possesses a site of 23 acres on Westmount Mountain for this purpose.

By ~~maintaining~~ maintaining in Honour Undergraduate and Graduate work a standard in Mathematics and Mathematical Physics approximating to that now in effect in Cambridge University, England the writer feels that, with the present staff and some additional assistance in routine teaching, McGill will in a few years occupy a pre-eminent position in North America not only in Physics and Theoretical Physics but also in Theoretical and Observational Astronomy.

The writer therefore urges very strongly that ways and means be found not only to carry on routine teaching effectively but by seeking special financial assistance (Carnegie Research Council, Research Council of Canada, the Rockefeller Foundation, appealing to the liberality of Montreal citizens) to bring about, during the next few years, a broad-minded and progressive policy for making McGill scientifically pre-eminent on this continent, through the aspirations of McGill's greatest benefactor, Sir William Macdonald.

Louis V. King