

copy

September 14, 1931.

Dr. W. P. Percival,
Director, Protestant Education,
Department of Education,
Quebec, P. Q.

Dear Dr. Percival,

Your letter of August 28th, together with your telegram of September 4th, was forwarded to me at Strathroy, where I was spending a brief vacation. My return to the University was delayed for a few days and I have not replied until this morning.

Let me in the first place state that McGill University cannot hold itself responsible or be held responsible for careless work done by a member of its staff when employed by another body, though if any such erratic marking as you allege has occurred, I am naturally very sorry. Erratic marking may be due to carelessness, or it may be only a mistake. All of us make mistakes at times - even your Department is not guiltless in this matter, as we have on more than one occasion detected errors in the results sent out. But such errors are always easily adjusted, as I believe the errors of which you complain in the present instance may be adjusted.

Let me say most emphatically that if a professor of this university is guilty of careless marking as alleged, I do not intend to take any action to mitigate his offence. If he cannot mark fairly he, of course, cannot be employed as an examiner.

Our only desire is to be absolutely just to candidates who wrote either of the two examinations. I would remind you that the matriculation marks were sent to every candidate and the results announced in the press six days before the Revising Board sat and recommended that marks in certain papers be arbitrarily raised.