

To - Sir Arthur Currie, June 3rd, 1923.

Premier. Mons. Taschereau received the modified proposition in a most critical fashion, and my feeling was that such of the representatives of the Universite de Montreal, as cared to attend the meeting, were absolutely lukewarm. Some of the most representative men among the French Canadians who were to have been present failed to put in an appearance - e.g. the Rector of the Universite de Montreal, the Professor of Physics (Mons. Gendreau), whose opinions are supposed to have much weight with the Premier, another delegate (whose name has slipped my memory) who was expected to pledge the support of twelve Catholic Colleges, etc.

The enlarged scheme, if adhered to, will mean an enlarged deputation from Europe, and could only be feasible if backed by the enthusiastic support, both in the region of Finance and Organization, by bodies of Engineers, Physicists, Aeronauts, Meteorologists, Actuaries, etc. Dr. Fields has not produced any evidence that any such support would be forthcoming. On the contrary, I understand that the Council of the Engineering Institute of Canada has decided not to participate.

If McGill University is prepared to make itself financially responsible for the running of the scheme, the Mathematical Department would of course do everything in its power to make the thing a success. It is the opinion of every member of the Department that someone would have to be called in with full executive responsibility for all details with regard to arrangements and correspondence. He should have an office and a stenographer.

My advice is that the University should not undertake the responsibility unless it has \$50,000, at the very least, placed at its disposal.

The chief items of expense would be

- (1) Subventions to thirty or more mathematicians from Europe. These should be on a liberal scale.
- (2) The printing of Transactions \$10,000
- (3) Secretarial and stenographic work
- (4) Suitable provisions for housing and entertainment of the possible 1500.
- (5) The trip across the Continent.

Clearly if the University is not prepared to take over the running of the Congress on the money that may be raised by Professor Fields, it is