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McGILL UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Memorial College Newfoundland

MONTREAL, April 13th, 1927.

Sir Arthur W. Currie,
Principal,
McGill University:

Dear Sir Arthur:

I beg to draw to your attention a condition in the educational life of Newfoundland which was disclosed to me in a recent letter from Principal Paton of the Memorial College of St. John's. This institution opened two years ago to give pre-university courses, finds itself with students unable to proceed to university due to lack of funds. Few, if any scholarships are available to help them, and in reply to a request for suggestions, I have stated that I believed this situation can be relieved by cooperation amongst the Nfld. Societies throughout Canada and the United States.

In this connection I would like to refer to what you already know, viz., that a McGill Graduate Society Section has recently been formed in Nfld., consisting of 35 members so far. This Society has written of late to the Nfld. Club of McGill (a students' organization, purely) asking in what manner it could cooperate. It is significant that, whereas the population of that country has not increased in fifty years (in spite of a large birth-rate), the continued exodus has taken place to this continent. Canada has absorbed by far the majority of such who desire university education. I hope, Sir, I may be pardoned if I state that these graduates have not been the worst that Canadian institutes have educated. Of the many such that I have known I cannot name ten who were able to be educated by their parents.

In conversations with representatives from Nfld. I know that the attempt is made to mould the Memorial College on British and more particularly on Canadian lines, and it has been stated to me that McGill is the desirable pattern. I do not foresee the time when this College will compete with any university in