

21st January, 1930.

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M o n t r e a l .

Dear George,

You will remember our conversation when George Macdonald was present, as to ways in which the graduates might interest themselves in University affairs. Yesterday, when attending a meeting of the Faculty of Applied Science, I heard a request preferred by the fourth year science students for some instruction in public speaking. I daresay this request has arisen because of two things:

First, we began this year to give instruction in public speaking to the second year students, and apparently good results have followed. The course is not an elaborate one, and is superintended by Professor French, who does not pretend to be an orator, or even an effective public speaker. I think he meets the class once a week and allows them to speak on any topic they choose, he contenting himself with criticism of the effort. Personally, I have always attached a great deal of importance to a man's ability to say what he has to say in an effective, convincing manner, and for that reason I support to the best of my ability all the debating clubs, dramatic clubs, and every other activity which helps a person to express himself.