

, 1920

Faculty of Law
McGill University
Montreal, Canada

The Honourable the Chief Justice }
Attorney-General } of each Colony in the W.I.

Dear Sir:

From inquiries which have recently reached the Law Faculty of this University it appears that there are numerous students in the West ^{Indies and other British possessions} who would be anxious to avail themselves of the ~~own~~ course of legal study provided by McGill if they could be assured that it would facilitate their admission to the practice of law in their respective Colonies. I ^{have the honour} ~~am~~ therefore ~~directed~~ by the ~~Governors~~ to invite your attention to the scheme of legal education provided by this University in order that you may have an opportunity of considering how far it meets the requirements of the Bar in your Colony.

As you are no doubt aware, the law of the Province of Quebec is in part based on the civil law of France, and the Code of the Province is largely modelled upon the Code Napoleon. On the other hand the criminal law, the law of evidence, the law relating to negotiable ^{instruments} ~~evidence~~, and the bulk of the law governing ordinary commercial matters are substantially the same as the law of England. Montreal is therefore almost unique in the opportunities which it offers to the student of acquiring a working knowledge of the two principal systems of law now governing the civilized world, and it was this consideration which moved the ^{University} ~~Governors~~ in the summer of 1919 to institute a special course for the benefit of those students who desired to practise, not in this Province, but in jurisdictions governed by English law. In the opinion of the ^{Faculty} ~~Governors~~ the experience of this session has amply justified the new departure. Among those attending the course have been several students from the West Indies, and the ^{W.I.} ~~Governors~~ believed that it would be in the interest both of the Colonies and ^{of} the University if the McGill course of study were to be formally recognised as part of the qualification for admission to practice at the various Colonial Bars.

The courses ^{of} study, as at present arranged, may be briefly described as follows:-