

The Women's Directory of Montreal

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The case-workers so far turned out by McGill have been most useful in filling junior positions. As time goes on and the social agencies in Montreal are strengthened to the point where they can provide better field-work for the students taking the course, more experienced graduates will result, and we may hope for an intelligent understanding and handling of our peculiar problems.

Up to the present the average worker in the average social agency in Montreal has been so completely untrained that "well-meaning amateur" was an obvious designation, and many of our best known and most popularly supported organizations are at this moment under the control of those who have had no social training other than that gained by a very limited experience. This also applies to the members of many boards, whose ignorance of even the first principles of social work is acting as a constant deterrent to the adoption of up-to-date methods. If McGill does not lead us it is not difficult to fore-cast the condition of affairs a few years hence.

With a strong Social Service Department producing trained workers for office and board-room, McGill can attain a direct connection with the city which will result in incalculable good both to Montreal and to the University.

So strong is my conviction that many of the federated agencies share my views that I would urge that a questionnaire be issued and the results placed before the Governors of McGill.

May I add that the argument has been used that there are no positions vacant at present and consequently no prospects for students in the Social Service Course. - There are a few positions vacant, but there are many that are filled by make-shifts who would be superseded at once were any better candidate available. No graduate of ability, who is taking her profession seriously will lack a position in Montreal.

Yours faithfully,

Mary A. Le' Donald

President The Women's Directory.

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