

McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL.

OBSERVATORY.

No. 3. Sir Arthur W. Currie, K.C.M.G., L.L.D. 10/10/22.

*What what
you are paying for*

In the name of McGill we use our professional knowledge a thousand times a year in satisfying inquiries that come to us in the absence of a University Observatory.

9-11-22

We cannot put a member of the staff in our room to supervise. Our weather observer at \$50.00 monthly goes when a position offers. We have coached five in four years practically doing their routine work for months in each case. Our latest has just departed and we again do this chore. Our time clerk at \$50.00 monthly does his duties at such times as he can morning and evening. He lives at home. He depends on Mr. Lawrence for three times this amount of salary. The Secretary had the insincerity to oppose our estimates for this item on the grounds that no advances for staff were permissible. Did he oppose Mr. Lawrence's securing him at \$150. a month immediately after? To place him in charge would be to surrender the last control of the Observatory to these two officials who suppress us.

*Advised
10/11/22
advised*

If it is of paramount importance for Mr. Lawrence to live on the campus, there is the house occupied by his foreman, Mr. Graydon.

As winter is coming, we trust you will in the meantime instruct Mr. Lawrence to vacate two rooms of his eleven, to enlarge the 19 inch slit by which we enter our rooms, to enclose an open gallery, to attend to urgent requisitions he is ignoring. We are paying rental where these are needed. Our furniture is awaiting entry through a normal door. We trust you to instruct him to heat our offices. If these things cannot be done, we shall have to resign from the Observatory or, if loyalty to Alma Mater allows it, advertise this situation and seek legal recourse.

Yours respectfully,

James Weir