

Trinity  
Methodist Episcopal  
Church

JOHN J. MCALPINE, PASTOR  
RESIDENCE 224 E. JEFFERSON ST.

Sandusky, Ohio

October 26 1927

The Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Governors  
and Corporation of McGill University  
Montreal Canada.

My dear Sirs,- At your request and representing McGill University, I attended the Inaugural Ceremonies of Mr. Ernest Hatch Wilkins as President of Oberlin College on Monday October 24, 1927. The day was an ideal Autumnal day. The ceremonies in all their details were perfect. There was a large inspirational representative attendance from the United States, from Canada and from beyond the Sea.

Dr. Wilkins is the first lay President of Oberlin College, the six former presidents being clergymen. This was not seriously considered as an innovation. With some small knowledge of men and affairs in this country and the needs of these changing days,- it seemed to me that the Trustees had selected wisely and well, when they chose Dr. Wilkins among 'among other eligibles.'

He is a forward looking man, a scholar with a clear cut mind, with strong mentality and possessing a rare type of personality, combined with a sense of the importance of the moral and religious emphasis. He was accorded an earnest and royal welcome to the Presidency of Oberlin College.

The other Canadian representatives, designated 'Foreign Universities' and myself,- were received and granted every courtesy and consideration during the day with a fine spirit of cordiality.

After the Luncheon, I had the pleasure of a brief hand shake with President Wilkins and personally expressed the greetings and good wishes of McGill University.

Oberlin is a pioneer College in Educational and moral reform. A College almost one hundred years old, and a student body in all departments of almost two thousand. A strong body of men and women compose the Faculty.

I enclose a program and will have mailed to you a copy of the Oberlin News which will bring to you the account of the Ceremonies more in detail.

I am yours most fraternally.

*John J. McAlpine,*