

*to answer
revised*

March 2nd, 1932.

Mgr. A. V. Joseph Piette, P. A.,
Rector, Université de Montréal,
Montreal. P. Q.

My dear Monseigneur Piette,

The recent action of the Government in the direction of economy includes a reduction of the appropriation for the work of the Laboratoires of Plant Pathology and Entomology from \$765,000 to \$328,500 - a reduction of somewhat over 50%.

As you are aware, the work of these Laboratories is fundamental in character, employing expert scientific workers who have prepared themselves by long training, and are, for the most part, products of our universities. The work itself is aimed at the protection of our country against the importation of diseases, affords adequate inspection at ports and applies scientific research to the problems of damage and disease by animal and plant pests.

I cannot but believe that the above reduction is so drastic as to cripple most seriously this important work, and to prejudice its future by alienating the men now preparing for the scientific work of the Government in future.

In view of the importance of the matter, it occurs to me that we might co-operate with Toronto and Queens' in making suitable representations of the whole issue to the Ministers of Finance, Agriculture and the Interior at Ottawa; and I venture, therefore, to suggest that as a preliminary step we exchange memoranda with a view to agreeing on the terms of a protest and arranging for an appointment in Ottawa.

Ever yours faithfully,