

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1920

A NEW LEADER FOR OLD MCGILL.

THE qualities which made Major-General Sir Arthur Currie a great soldier guarantee his success as Principal of McGill University.

Though a student of the arts of war he was not a professional soldier, but his organizing genius, his strong and high-principled personality, his force of character, and his ability to fire his men with his own enthusiasm and determination, gained him the leadership of one of the hardest fighting units in the British Expeditionary Forces, and made that corps the spear-head of the final offensive that smashed through the German lines to victory.

McGill needs the same qualities in its leader. He is not a professional pedagogue—had until today no University degree—but that spirit and personality which made him and his fighting corps so famous will serve him equally well in his new command.

Education is a continual warfare against the powers of darkness and ignorance and narrowness. Victory is the price of courage and stern mental discipline and a vision that sees over the immediate trenches. General Currie has this vision, this instinct of discipline, this courage, and with it an idealism of Old Testament intensity and supreme scorn for outworn, red-tape rules and inhibitions.

The war has given us a new world, with new problems and novel tasks. The old instruments of peaceful progress must adapt themselves to the situation or be thrust aside. Under General Currie we believe that McGill will not fail to meet its obligations to our reconstructed society, but will lengthen its cords and strengthen its stakes so that under its inspiring shelter may be built a new army that shall win great victories for the honor of our country and the glory of the old college.

McGill's New Head

THE announcement of the appointment of General Sir Arthur Currie as principal of McGill University on the day he was made Doctor of Laws at the convocation was peculiarly apposite. But if the new doctor makes his mark at this great seat of learning, as he doubtless will, it will be as an administrator, which is just the capacity in which a new head is needed. He has shown himself to be one of the great men of the day, and probably there is no position in which his genius for inspiration, his lofty ideals and his large humanity could find better expression than as the principal of Canada's leading educational institution.

It turns out that General Currie was the nominee of Sir Auckland Geddes, who had resigned the post for the purpose of becoming British Ambassador at Washington, and was endorsed in this recommendation by exalted collegians in England.

In coming to McGill Dr. Currie will bring to the discharge of his new duties those sterling qualities which have made him successful in other fields of the world's work. It is as an organizer and leader that he will best advance the important interests placed in his hands by the Board of Governors.

Ottawa, Morning Citizen - May 13, 1920.

EXPRESS PLEASURE GEN. CURRIE'S POST

Ottawa Command of the G.W.V.A. Adopt Resolution Voicing Approval.

At the executive meeting of the Ottawa Command G.W.V.A., held in the board room of the clubhouse, Cartier street, last night, the following resolution was unanimously passed:

"That this executive of the G. W. V. A. Ottawa branch in regular session assembled, notes with the greatest pleasure the appointment of General Sir Arthur Currie, late commander of the C.E.F., to the post of principal and vice-chancellor of McGill University, Montreal. It feels that the general's remarkable powers of organization will prove of the utmost benefit to the furtherance of the educational facilities of this university and begs to congratulate the faculty on their foresight in electing this distinguished Canadian to this eminently responsible post."

Col. J. W. Margeson attended the meeting, but the chair was occupied by the acting president, Comrade W. P. Grant.

It was decided to accede to the proposal of the Ontario provincial secretary, Comrade W. Turley, Toronto, that he, and the provincial president, be permitted to address the semi-monthly business meeting of the Ottawa command next Monday night, giving particulars of the work of the provincial command.

An appeal for support to the Canadian Jewish War Relief drive now on in the city was received, and it was decided to vote the sum of \$25 towards the fund.

GEN. CURRIE ACCEPTS THE POST AT MCGILL

Must Not Face Future in a Spirit of Pessimism, He Declares.

MONTREAL, May 12.—At the close of an historic convocation of McGill University, Acting Principal F. D. Adams, announced on behalf of the board of governors the appointment of Lt. General Sir Arthur Currie to the principalship of the university.

Sir Arthur, rising to reply, was greeted with an ovation that lasted several minutes. In a brief speech that carried to every part of the hall he said that he "already had many McGill men under him for five years during the war. "For the future," he concluded, "we have to face unrest but we need not face it in a spirit of pessimism provided we have a proper regard for the lessons of the war." He showed the analogy that exists between discipline in the war and discipline in private life with obedience to the dictates of reason and conscience.

At The Y. M. C. A.

The first public speech made by Lt. General Sir Arthur Currie, following his installation as principal of McGill University, was made tonight as the guest of the Young Men's Christian Association at the annual meeting held in the association's building on Drummond street. Sir Arthur said that he regarded the Young Men's Christian Association as an integral part of the Canadian "just as necessary to their as any other branch of the He added that "in any organization we have or in for the future of the must be a place for an on like this