

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

LONDON, CANADA

February 22, 1932.

Answer
D. Mohr

Sir Arthur Currie,
Principal, McGill University,
Montreal, Quebec.

My dear Sir Arthur:

I thank you for the directness with which you have referred to me Dr. Neville's address before the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and for the opportunity you have given me to be equally direct in discussing the matter with you. I fully believe that when all the facts are before us the words in question will not seem to mean what they might seem to mean at first glance. I shall take up your references to the address one by one.

First of all, however, I wish to state that Dr. Neville wrote his paper with documents before him that he had secured from all the Canadian Departments of Education. He received from Dr. W. P. Percival, the Director of Protestant Education in Quebec, in reply to a request dated December 3rd, 1930, a copy of the latest report of the Director. I have in my hand a copy of the letter he received from Dr. Percival; this is dated December 10th, 1930. At the present time we cannot lay our hands on the report Dr. Percival submitted, but we are sending for another copy together with a copy of the very latest report issued by the Department.

1. The reference to the four-year matriculation course in Ontario cannot be understood unless one reads at least half of the long paragraph which contains the reference. The significant words in the second sentence are "on their charts" and these refer naturally to the published statements of the educational authorities.

Dr. Neville tells me that he did not find in the report submitted by Dr. Percival evidence that the Protestant high schools of Quebec were organized on a four-year basis, but he admits the possibility that, as for many years was the case in Ontario, there has been a discrepancy between paper organization and actual practice.

However, documentary evidence concerning the situation in Quebec is not lacking. I shall refer you to the Annual Survey of Education in Canada for 1930, which has just been published by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, page xxxix, where one may read the following statement, which apparently is based upon a report received by the author of the Survey from the Quebec Department of Education: