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THE BRITISH COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY BILL.

Last summer Dr. J. Bonsall Porter, representing McGill University, brought before the Province of British Columbia the question of establishing a Provincial University. The aid of McGill was offered; but it was carefully explained that this aid was tendered unconditionally. Dr. Porter outlined a plan that met with hearty approval. "For years," he remarked, "it has been our policy to promote and unify advanced teaching in the East as well as in the West, by affiliating local institutions whenever possible, and thus establishing standards which could scarcely be maintained by separate and weaker bodies . . . Whenever you are in a position to get on without help we shall quite contentedly drop out."

The Hon. Dr. Young, who is responsible for the Bill, in a lucid and well-balanced speech moved its second reading recently. After removing any misapprehension as to the attitude of the University of McGill, he stated that the Universities of Toronto and Queen's were entirely in accord with the movement.

The provisions of the University Bill are statesman-like in tone. The governing body is to be chosen thus:

"The first convocation of the University shall consist of all graduates of any university in His Majesty's Dominions who are actually residing in the Province two years prior to the date fixed for the first meeting of convocation, and who at least six weeks prior to the said date register themselves as members of such convocation, as hereinafter provided:

"Twenty-five members to be selected by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council and appointed for the first convocation only.

"After the first convocation, all convocations shall be composed of the Chancellor, the Senate, the members of the first convocation, and all persons who shall have become graduates of the University."

Clauses 21 and 22 provide thus:

"There shall be and there is hereby constituted a Board of Management for the University, under the name of the Board of Governors of the University of British Columbia.

"The Board shall consist of the Chancellor, who shall be chairman thereof, and the President of the University, both of whom shall be, ex-officio, members thereof, and nine persons appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council."

The proposed University is to be strictly non-sectarian. Tuition in the department of the Faculty of Arts is to be free. The University will work in conjunction with the Mining School, the Normal Schools and the High School systems. Night Schools are also to be established.