

17-8-1920

Law Faculty  
McGill University

Dear Principal:

I should be much obliged if you would be kind enough to look over the enclosed draft. The idea was suggested to me last session by some inquiries made by West Indian students, who were anxious to be able to obtain admission to ~~the~~ their local bar without having to eat dinners at the Inns of Court in London. The Law Faculty approved the draft at a meeting last April, but Lee decided not to circulate the letter to the various West Indian authorities until I returned from England and could deal with any correspondence that might arise.

Until a couple of years ago our Faculty hardly aimed at anything more than training men for the Quebec Bar. It was Lee's idea to make McGill a Dominion law school which should take the same place in Canada that Harvard does in the United States, and at his suggestion the Governors decided to found the chair which I now hold. Last session the Governors sanctioned his proposal for a second chair of English Law, but this has not yet been filled.

Whether the West Indies will respond to our advances remains to be seen, but if they are willing to work with us it should mean a considerable development for our Faculty. In view of the trade agreement just concluded at Ottawa I believe that the present moment is opportune for an effort on our part.

I am here for part of each day, and my house is at 427 Elm Avenue (Westmount 1248.W).

Yours very truly  
Herbert C. Smith