

Memorandum on the McCord Museum

In accordance with the recommendations of the Fox Survey it is proposed that the administration of the McCord Museum be now adjusted to the two general principles laid down in that Report, namely, (1) a greater degree of centralization and (2) a more specific definition of the functions of those responsible for the Museum.

~~Moreover,~~ **I**through the recent transfer of the McCord Estate to the University, the financial direction of the Museum is now wholly in the hands of McGill, and it is on the financial circumstances of the Museum that most of its executive administration depends. It is desirable for this reason and for purposes of uniformity of administration, therefore, that suitable executive machinery within the university be set up. At the same time it is also most desirable that those who have long served the Museum on what is at present its General Committee should be kept in close touch with the Collection and the work done by the Museum for the general public, and that, as long as they are willing, the University should benefit from their advice and expert knowledge.

To these ends, then, it is proposed that the present Executive Committee of the General Museums Committee be made responsible (under the General Museum Committee) for the maintenance of the premises and its contents, the framing and pursuit of a policy of collection with the aid of experts, and the day to day routine business with which the administration has to deal. This Committee could handle most of the work without the necessity of frequent formal meetings but would of course keep closely in touch with the Bursar on all financial matters and would make the fullest use of expert advice wherever it was required to decide on purchases or similar Museum matters.

The present members of the General Committee should be asked to form a body of Advisory Consultants, or an Advisory Committee, to be consulted individually on particular questions in which they are individually interested and experienced. Any suggestions or recommendations which they might care to make to the Secretary would be duly reported to and considered by the Executive Committee.