

Howard  
Murray's

DUPLICATE

McGILL UNIVERSITY

Memorandum on the subject of Fees.

In approaching the subject of student fees charged by any university, it is well to touch upon the fundamental principle accepted by a university as the basis of its policy.

It will, I think, be accepted that in a university the principle of "selection" should be a basic element, which leads naturally to the element of quality in its product. The principle of "selection" is the very antithesis of the principle of mass production; and while the question of fees is not entirely of the essence of this principle, yet it is a contributory factor, and affects to some extent the main idea.

In this connection it is interesting to note the principle adopted by a small University, that of the State of Iowa. This University has emphasized the fact of its adoption of the principle of "selection". Incidental to this, it proposes to charge a larger fee to applicants for admission, who reside outside the State. Being endowed by the State of Iowa, it is compelled to keep its tuition fee at \$192. for residents of the State; for outsiders it is \$456.00.

As against this, the other extreme is reached by the Duke University in North Carolina. This, of course, is a new university brought into being through the bequest of the late J.B. Duke. At this school of learning the principle has been adopted that a student need not be especially prepared for matriculation; instead of which, the University undertakes to prepare the raw material for its own mold. The feasibility of this departure from recognized principles has yet to be demonstrated.

The question of the fees contributed by students to the university is surely one which should engage the attention of Corporation. Members of Corporation are fully equipped to recognize the relationship between the service rendered by the university to the student body, and the contribution made by the student body to the university. It is not only a business matter; it is one which embodies within it all of the efforts being made by Corporation to improve and augment the service which the university is to render, not only in material things, such as buildings and equipment, but through the improvement and growth in the university of ability, scholarship and inspiration in the teaching staff of the various faculties. This is emphatically so in the more professional faculties, where no fee can possibly be commensurate if the student is there instructed by men of the highest attainments. Those who may best gauge these relationships are the Members of Corporation.

This memorandum is made with a view to determining whether the fees now being paid by students are in keeping with other values brought about by the change in the standard of living in Canada, and whether they are in keeping with relative fees paid in other universities; and further, whether the fees in the different faculties are in comparative adjustment.

Princeton

Princeton is not established as a faculty organization. It has "Departments of Instruction" with many different subjects only. It has a School of Engineering in which students take engineering, being obliged as well to take a course in Modern Languages, English, Economics, Mathematics and Physics. The sub-departments are the usual ones of Civil, Electrical, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering.

The fees, however, in general are the same as in all courses. This annual tuition fee is \$450. In addition to this, there is a fee of \$50. charged for each extra course taken to remove a deficiency or an entrance condition. There are some rather heavy extra fees; for instance, for a course in Chemistry a term fee of \$18. is charged.

In making comparisons as between one university and another, one can easily fall into the error of over-emphasizing the benefits to be derived by a student, by being over-influenced by a university's possession of buildings and equipment. Equally so may one's opinion be influenced by reading the courses of instruction offered by a university.