

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, N.Y.

January 27, 1931

Principal Sir Arthur Currie
McGill University
Montreal, Canada

Dear Principal Currie:

I have heard that there may be an opening in the Department of Psychology for the session beginning this September. When I left McGill in 1928 in order to study abroad it was with the hope that I should ultimately be permitted to return to McGill's teaching staff. Since then I have had two more years of graduate study and one year's experience in teaching. Now, I should like to be considered as candidate for a position in the Department of Psychology at McGill.

My earlier record is, I think, known to you. I received my B.A. from McGill in 1926, with first class honours in philosophy and psychology. In 1927 I was given my M.A. in psychology, and during the following year I did further graduate work, and at the same time held the position of sessional lecturer in psychology. In the spring of 1928 I left for Germany with the Moyses Travelling Scholarship in scientific subjects, and spent the following year studying in Berlin and Frankfurt am Main. In Berlin I worked directly under Professors Köhler and Wertheimer, attending lectures and assisting in a laboratory investigation of the "gamma movement" in visual perception. During the spring holiday I visited Professor David Katz in Rostock for a period of five weeks. His work on the "Erscheinungsweisen der Farben" is a classic in the field of perception, and I was able to become familiar with most of his important experiments and acquaint myself with his technique. It was during my stay with him that I became interested in the problem which has since become the subject of my Ph.D. dissertation. During the summer I studied in Frankfurt am Main under Gelb, Goldstein, and Wertheimer, who had just been appointed to the chair in philosophy there. At Frankfurt I spent practically all of my time doing research, the results of which I have embodied in an article which will appear very shortly as one of a series of "psychologische Analysen hirnpathologischer Fälle," edited by Gelb and Goldstein. My problem was to investigate the effects of a cerebellar lesion on the perception of form and colour, with particular reference to the phenomenon of "retreating" and "advancing" colours. During the spring of 1929 I was appointed University Fellow of Columbia University at a stipend of \$1800, and spent the year 1929-30 in study and research in that university. At the same time I registered as a candidate for the Ph.D. degree. My experimental work there was concerned with the phenomena of the constancy of colour in visual perception, a field of problems originally opened up by Hering but investigated most systematically by