



MCGILL UNIVERSITY

2.

between 1867 and 1897". I have never understood why the name of Sir Clifford Sifton should be brought so prominently into this discussion. All that Sifton really did was to promote the settlement of several groups of Middle Europeans on the Prairies, and I doubt very much if this was so important as we sometimes think. The period from 1900 to 1913 was a period of extraordinary emigration from Europe and Canada really only received its share of this migration. The West, therefore, would undoubtedly have been settled no matter whether Sifton had been Minister of the Interior or not. Indeed some of his ideas may have stood in the way of homesteading in the West by more desirable immigrants.

7. This is a perennial subject but perhaps a little old-fashioned. No one yet, I think, has ever written a true historical biographical portrait of Sir John.

8. and 9. These are both excellent subjects and lend themselves easily to interesting political biography.

10. This is, I should think, with deference, the best subject of all. All English-speaking students of Canadian affairs and Canadian history should be constantly aware of the position of Quebec in the Dominion. Probably the essay would turn upon the influence of Cartier and Laurier.

11, 12, 13. These subjects appear to me to be too general for careful study although I think that Canada's "international position" would make a very pertinent subject at present. Our international relations with Europe, including Great Britain on the one hand and the Sino-Japanese problem on the other and the United States of America on the south, is becoming exceedingly acute and possibly dangerous.

Yours very truly,

Sgd. Ira A. MacKay

Dean

Encl.