

MCGILL UNIVERSITY
MONTREALFACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

(An Honours Course, etc. continued)

devoting himself to the curriculum of one Department. It does not in the least signify that the student assumes a responsibility for relating the knowledge he acquires in his various courses so that he understand his subject thoroughly as a whole, or realises its bearing on other branches of knowledge in the curriculum of the University. His mind is confined to a departmentalised body of interest. This would be a good thing if the student possessed a broad or liberal training to begin with, but it is generally observed that the students in the first two years of the University commonly lack such culture. As a result the specialisation often in Honours seems to be premature. A certain proficiency in satisfying the professors of a Department is obtained, but not a liberal education.

To meet this situation the following proposals are offered for consideration, applying to the Faculty of Arts and Science generally, because no Department can do anything alone or without authority and the co-operation of others.

a) Entrance to McGill University, Faculty of Arts and Science, by examination, using the College Board Entrance Papers, setting a grade well above 50 %, and recommending students not prepared in all specific subjects to take Comprehensive Examinations designed to test their general knowledge. Let scholarship alone determine admittance. If a racial or religious selection is to be made, let it be open and above-board, specifying a certain percentage of the class in concern as admissible each year.

b) Make the unit of Honours work the field of knowledge not the curriculum of the Department. Let students of the Second Year try combinations of subjects that constitute some kind of unity regardless of whether it fits the schedule of any Department. Commitment to a Department whilst