

June 24th, 1924.

Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonnell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

Thanks very much for your letter of the 18th. I would have acknowledged it sooner but I have been away for the last three or four days. On Friday I went up to Ridley College to present the prizes and speak to the boys, while yesterday I was at the University of Vermont, Burlington.

Marjorie told me that she saw you but did not think you recognized her as she greeted you and Lady Macdonnell when you were receiving. I know how difficult it is to recognize everyone in a crowd. While she was sorry she did not have a word with you she felt diffident about going up to where you were sitting during most of the evening.

I had intended to write you to-day to ask you how it came about that the ranks were restored to the cadets. I had concluded that pressure had been brought to bear upon you to take that action. I wondered whether the Board had recommended it or not. Personally I think it was a very wrong thing to do and that no good whatever will come of it, but rather the reverse. Since it occurred I have spoken to cadets now in attendance at the College and to ex-cadets. The former have told me that, of course, the whole thing last spring was a "tempest in a teapot", that the College authorities got unduly excited and acted hurriedly in reducing the N.C.Os., that you had seen your mistake and while you could not apologize for