

December 11, 1932.

Let me at the outset assure you that Dr. Archibald, Dr. Fraser and myself have given long and earnest consideration to the best way in which the University can make use of your very generous grant to be used in the study of the cancer problem.

I don't suppose that there is any one problem in the medical field in the investigation of which there is more money spent annually. There are a goodly number of institutions in the United States which spend every year tens of thousands of dollars on laboratory research for the two-fold purpose of finding the cause of cancer and the cure. In the British Isles and on the Continent very large funds are annually devoted to the same purpose. You know that the Ontario Government last summer sent a mission to Europe to study what is being done there in the older centres with reference to cancer investigation. I have consulted the Reverend Canon Cody, the new President of Toronto University, who is Chairman of that mission, and he tells me it is his intention to advise the Ontario Government to make a beginning by the establishment of cancer clinics in different parts of Ontario.

At McGill we agree with him that the best results will come from such a beginning. A small clinic was established in the Maternity Department of the Royal Victoria Hospital some years ago. Cancer of the womb is a fairly common disease from which women suffer. This clinic meant the setting aside of a certain number of beds for cancer patients and the making of a proper record, which would tell the story of the progress of the disease, - when it was first detected, how it was treated - and, I may add, treatment is principally radium - the dose of radium, the results, the amount of treatment received in the hospital, the history of the disease after the patient left the hospital, and what finally happened.