

C O P Y

ERNEST WINTERMOSCH
ACTING DEAN
NEW CODE OF
INTERNATIONAL LAW
MONTREAL,
CANADA.

MONTREAL, April 21, 1924.

TO THE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY,
MONTREAL.

Dear Sirs:-

I read in the newspapers, of a few days ago, that, in approving an enlargement of the curriculum for the B.C.L. degree, you had "decided that additional and more advanced teaching should be added to the B.C.L. course in quasi-legal subjects, such as constitutional law and international law; and that options should be given so that students might select some advanced subjects, instead of those prescribed at present, with a view to enlarging the educational outlook of those studying in the Faculty, and being helpful to those who take the course to equip them for public life rather than active practice".

I think it is a very wise decision, and may be the beginning of a series of decisions that will give to your Faculty of Law a renown like that of the other Faculties of McGill University. It is the right time to make such a move. International events, since the great war, have made it quite essential for Canada, almost as much as it is for the United States, to send its representatives to every country and every great center of the civilized world for diplomatic and commercial activities, or to take part in the international assemblies and courts of justice which are destined to be the means of removing and settling disagreements and disputes that may arise between nations. For that reason, international law is now becoming so important that it justifies any desire and expense to make it better taught, more easily learned and, consequently, better known.

I take the liberty of writing to you on the subject, not only because - as a graduate of your University, with, among other degrees, the B.C.L. from the Faculty in question - I am interested in the welfare of my Alma Mater, but also because I am especially interested in the development and wider knowledge of international law.

I am over fifty years, and have always been a student. A student in Italy, before coming here; a student at McGill; then, a thorough-going student of international law, before the great war; and, since the war began, a student of the effects of the mistakes made by international leaders, thinkers and statesmen. My studies in Italy, before I was seventeen, enabled me to stay scores of years away, without forgetting the language and the ideals of that country; my studies at McGill made me win a scholarship and obtain three degrees; my self-imposed study of international law, or of what I could find in a collection of 327 volumes written on that great branch of law in three languages, indeed like at a true University, enabled me to attain the knowledge and reach the acumen necessary to write a project of an international code of 5657 articles, including rules even on aerial navigation and wireless telegraphy, never mentioned in a law book before. My present study of the effects of mistakes made by