

- Superior
- (2) For each group there should be a board composed of all the members of the departments within the group that are concerned with graduate work. The present system of associates is most unsatisfactory and, I believe, should be abolished. If a man is considered competent to direct graduate students' work, he should be given a vote in the management of graduate studies.

In addition, each board should be allowed and encouraged to add members of other departments to their number if they have some special knowledge that would prove valuable to the board, e.g., the group including geology might well desire the professor of metallurgy, while that including History should certainly have a representative from the Faculty of Law.

In this way, in each board you would have a group of men dealing in related subjects, which had, in a general way, the same needs in graduate study, a similar technique, and similar standards. They would be able to offer intelligent general criticism of the subjects they had to consider, and to judge fairly adequately the standards maintained.

- (3) What would be their functions?

To them would be presented for approval the academic record of the proposed graduate student, the subject in which he intends to research, and the courses which he suggests he shall take. They would have power to reject him as being, on his past record, unlikely to attain a satisfactory standard of graduate work. Here much more should be insisted upon than is sometimes the case at McGill. The insistence that the student must have a really good record in the subject in which he proposes to do his graduate work would do a great deal to raise the value of its degree in the eyes of other universities.

The board might reject or suggest modifications in his proposed subject of research on the ground that

- (a) it was a subject unworthy of serious work,
- (b) its possibilities had already been exhausted,
- (c) There were not adequate facilities at the student's disposal for serious work to be done in it; this last ground is worthy of more serious consideration than it is sometimes given at McGill.

And they should have a free hand to lay down what courses, if any, the student should be compelled to take. For instance, I could well imagine that they might suggest that a student in the department of classics proposing to work on the subject of Roman legal institutions should be compelled to attend the relevant lectures of the Professor of Roman Law.

- (4) They might also lay down the minimum time in which, under the special circumstances of each student, he should be permitted to take his degree.