

May 17th.1921.

J. Bonsall Porter, Esq., D.Sc.,  
Department of Mining,  
McGill University,  
MONTREAL.

Dear Dr. Porter,

I notice on page 111 of the Annual Report to the Visitor for the year 1919-20 that you have designated yourself as Director of the Departments of Mining and Metallurgy, and that an article which appeared in the "Gazette" recently entitled the McGill Students Summer Schools you are again referred to as "Head of the Department of Mining and Metallurgy".

On looking into this matter I cannot find that there is any authority for this designation. Each of the branches of Engineering which form part of the curriculum of the Faculty of Applied Science has a separate head, and in those branches of Engineering which are housed in the Chemistry and Mining Building, Dr. Ruttan is head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, and you are head of the Department of Mining Engineering, and Dr. Stansfield is head of the Department of Metallurgical Engineering. The building itself is under the Chemistry & Mining Building Committee.

I understand on account of the fact that under present conditions the Mining and Metallurgical Laboratories are crowded together in the basement of the Chemistry and Mining Building, and are to a certain extent served by the same mechanics and workmen, a common control seemed to be advisable, and you have, therefore, been known as the Director of the Mining and Metallurgical Laboratories. This, however, does not carry with it the headship of the two Departments.