

THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES.

The department of Geological Sciences includes the following sciences each of which has become so broad that it includes a number of specialties in itself,-

STRATIGRAPHY including Sedimentation.

PALEONTOLOGY including Vertebrate and Invertebrate Paleontology, Paleobotany, and the Basis and Control of Organic Evolution.

PHYSICAL GEOLOGY including Dynamic Geology and Structural Geology.

PHYSIOGRAPHY including Human Geography and Economic Geography.

MINERALOGY including Crystallography and Optical Mineralogy.

PETROLOGY including Petrography and Mineralography.

ECONOMIC GEOLOGY including Mining Geology Metallics and Non-Metallics; Coal Geology; Oil Geology; Engineering Geology; Water Supply; and Agricultural Geology.

Although these sciences have made enormous strides in the last two decades McGill had not the teaching facilities, the necessary space, nor the requisite staff to undertake more than the teaching of some elementary courses, and to supervise the work of an occasional student for an M.Sc. degree. Upon the resignation of Dr. Bancroft in 1929 the Governors decided that something must be done to bring this department into line with modern requirements, and directed that a strenuous effort be made to modernize its teaching equipment, and to build up facilities for advanced study and research which would enable students to obtain in Canada that training which hitherto could only be secured in foreign universities.

A preliminary survey of the department showed that its equipment was ample and modern about twenty five years ago, for undergraduate work, and for an occasional graduate student, but that for modern teaching all the courses would have to be reorganized and correlated to insure efficiency and prevent overlap; new courses would have to be built up to provide for the advances in the sciences, and, especially, provision for much laboratory work would have to be arranged to supplement the lecture courses. One Assistant Professor was appointed in 1929 and another 1930 and the Professors of Geology, Mineralogy, and Paleontology all working to same end have practically accomplished this part of the program as well as provided advanced courses leading to the Ph.D.

The teaching equipment of diagrams, charts, sections, geological and topographical maps, lantern slides, fossil collections, mineral collections, rock collections, thin sections of rocks, collections of ores, polished sections of ores, etc., has been thoroughly overhauled and arranged for ready use where needed.