

McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL.

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE.

November  
Twenty-sixth,  
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Notice for Dr. Adams on Dean Laird's letter.

It would be very desirable indeed if the requirements for the School Leaving Certificate and those for Matriculation could be made uniform. Attempts have been made to this end more than once, but without result. In these times when the cry is all for a higher standard of entrance, it is not likely that the University will be inclined to lower its requirements, either by exacting less work in a subject or by giving a wider choice, so that if there is to be uniformity, it must be rather by raising the requirements for the School Leaving Certificate than by changing those for Matriculation.

Dean Laird points out that the present Matriculation requirements are hard to meet on the part of many country schools, and I have no doubt that that is true, but, as already stated, it is quite inconceivable that the University should come down to suit the capabilities of such schools.

In so far as admission to the professional faculties is concerned, I cannot see any possibility of a change. Take, for instance, the Faculty of Applied Science, I am quite confident that they would not lower the standard in Mathematics, and for this, as for all other Faculties, English must be insisted upon and surely a language other than English, as well as a science subject. For admission to Law and Medicine, it would be rather humiliating to have it pointed out that these Faculties would admit candidates with fewer subjects or on a lower standard than that exacted by the Examining Boards in the various provinces. The only Faculty that might make a change would be the Faculty of Arts, not so much by reducing the number of subjects as by giving wider options, but that would mean throwing Latin and perhaps a science subject into the optional section. I doubt very much whether they are prepared to go that length as yet. They certainly could not do so without modifying the First Year Course, as it stands to reason that only those subjects in which a candidate passed (especially in the matter of languages and Mathematics) could be followed up in the First Year. If Latin were made optional, for instance, it could not be exacted in the First Year. The only hope, so far as