

October 19th, 1931.

Mrs. A. W. Wigle,  
194 Park Street South,  
Hamilton, Ontario.

Dear Mrs. Wigle,

There are many answers to the editorial in the MAIL AND EMPIRE of Wednesday, October 14th, but the best answer is that much of it is untrue and that all of it leaves a wrong impression.

It is quite true that Dr. Leacock said what he is reported to have said, but those of us who know him best look upon it largely as "Leacockian humour" in which exaggeration plays so prominent a part. For anyone to state that the third-year Mathematics at McGill is but the equivalent of first-year Mathematics at Toronto is to show the silly lengths to which those seeking notoriety will go. We have many students from Ontario at McGill, and it is certainly not the experience of the staff of the University that they are found to be better prepared than students graduating from the schools of Quebec, nor do they outstrip the students from Quebec Province or from other parts of Canada who are their class-mates at this University. Further, Dr. Leacock is not qualified to speak on this subject, because he never meets the students until they are in their second year, and as he is a Professor of Political Economy, there are some who would dispute his right to speak with reference to English, Arithmetic, Mathematics, Latin and Greek.

Let me just tell you of something that happened within the past few months. In 1930 the headmasters of some 17 of the finest English public schools visited every University in Canada in order to satisfy themselves of the efficiency of Canadian Universities; they wished to advise those of their students who intended to come to Canada to make their living in later life, as to the relative merits of the Canadian universities. Thirty-three students came to Canada this