

## A CONSERVATORY FOR MONTREAL.

**I**N PURSUANCE of the policy of facilitating cultural development in this Province, the establishment of a Conservatory of Music for Montreal is announced. This will be welcome news to many. There is no city on the North American Continent that has a greater music-loving public, none that responds more readily to opportunities to hear fine music. Unfortunately, those opportunities are not frequent. Moreover, the facilities for study are not as comprehensive as could be desired.

Apparently it is the intention of the Government to establish a Conservatory at which students may obtain a thorough grounding, a substantial musical background, as it were, preliminary to finishing their studies abroad,—a Conservatory, moreover, to which successful students may return and take up teaching positions. It is a laudable idea, and it is susceptible of practical elaboration. Fortunately, music is a department of culture into which politics can hardly enter.

It would, however, be most unfortunate if any strangers gathered the impression, from the announcement that a Conservatory is to be established by the Government, that Montreal has no facilities for musical studies. On the contrary, there are several. McGill Conservatory has done splendid work in the past, and is continuing to do such work, alike in grounding pupils and in preparing them for advanced studies, in every branch of music. The long record of successful Canadians who have won places for themselves in the world of music testifies to the thoroughness of McGill's training. But this institution is not within the reach of everybody, nor is it large enough to take care of more than a small proportion of those desirous to study. A new Conservatory under Government auspices will therefore meet a long felt need.

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