



DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
HALIFAX, N.S.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 15, 1928.

Sir Arthur W. Currie,  
Principal, McGill University,  
M o n t r e a l.

My dear Sir Arthur:

As I wrote to Dean Martin the other day, it is difficult to have a forgiving spirit when in two bites you take away our whole department of Physiology; Dreyer last year and now Babkin. As you say, I now have to start all over again to find someone capable of heading up that department here, and I know that men are not plentiful. We are very sorry to lose Dr. Babkin from the University. In addition to his ability as a scholar, he is a very fine fellow personally, and I am sure he will be a success at McGill.

There is one point which I would like you to allow me to bring to your attention. When we appointed Dr. Babkin here in the fall of 1924, he was practically penniless, having had all his goods and chattels taken away from him by the Bolshevists and driven out of Russia in the clothes he stood in. We, therefore, had to help him financially to get a start, and, though he did not come to us until September, yet we put him on our pay list as from July 1st. As a result, he will receive his last monthly cheque from us on June 30th next. I understand from Dr. Babkin that he did not think of making this clear to you when he was discussing his appointment at McGill. I asked him for permission to bring it to your attention, and feel sure that you will want to treat him as we did and will wish to put him on your appointment list as of July 1st. Otherwise, I do not know what the poor fellow will do, as he has not yet been able to save anything.

I was glad to learn the last time I saw Macallum that Collip was to succeed him. I think he is one of the men who will bring great credit to McGill. With Babkin, Collip and Penfield on your staff, you will have added decided strength to Medical research at McGill.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

*S. Stanley LaPrade*  
President.