

McGILL UNIVERSITY

4.

Office of the Principal  
and Vice Chancellor.

- "1. For the advancement of education; for the carrying on of research work and investigation and the dissemination of knowledge, all with particular regard to the interest and needs of the population in rural districts.
- "2. To provide suitable and effective training for teachers and especially for those whose work will directly affect the education in schools in rural districts. ...."

It would seem from this that Sir William had in his mind the improvement of the rural communities and the training of leaders for all activities in connection with the rural population. The incorporation of the School for Teachers, I am quite sure, was a second thought, and grew out of his first intentions. So it is not admitted by McGill University that the School for Teachers has any prior claim upon the accommodation at Macdonald College, although I may add that I have given instructions that this year the enrollment in the School of Household Science is not to be increased, as long as the demand for space for the School for Teachers exists. I am quite certain that Macdonald College was established, first, as a School of Agriculture and Domestic Science, having regard to the requirements of the boys and girls in rural districts.

You say that the Central Board of Examiners is anxious to know how the \$15,000 per annum paid annually by the Government to the School for Teachers has ameliorated the Teachers' Training situation at Macdonald College.

This grant was not given with the idea that increased facilities for the School for Teachers would be provided. It arose from the fact that the School for Teachers was draining the resources of Macdonald College to the extent of tens of thousands of dollars a year. It was an appreciation of that condition and its unfairness that led the Government to provide the grant.

I know that the undertaking by the University in 1907 to "provide facilities according to the present requirements of the Province" is interpreted in different ways in different quarters. Some choose to regard it as an undertaking by the University to provide all necessary facilities, whatever the requirements of the Province may be at any given time. This is regarded by the University as an unjustified and far-fetched interpretation, the University holding that its obligation is to supply facilities equivalent to the facilities provided at the time the contract was made in 1907. We further contend that we have always gone far beyond our obligation.