



PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR:
SIR ARTHUR W. CURRIE, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.

FROM

THE PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR,
MCGILL UNIVERSITY,
MONTREAL.

July 22, 1931.

MEMORANDUM RE LETTER JULY 13, 1931, FROM THE
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, MCGILL UNIVERSITY
GRADUATES' ENDOWMENT FUND, ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY OF
THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

This letter very definitely asks the Board of Governors to coöperate with the Graduates Endowment Fund Committee in a Special Campaign for a Gymnasium.

This is a matter which requires very serious consideration. In the first place, I do not suppose that there is any material facility more required at McGill than a Gymnasium. We have never had one, and have been forced to carry on all indoor activities by using such accommodation as we could borrow, -

Such arrangements, of course, have never been satisfactory. The erection of a gymnasium would enable us to concentrate all these activities under one roof, thereby ensuring better supervision, a more extensive programme, and a greater participation by the student body generally. All this is highly desirable, because we look upon our Department of Physical Education as being complementary to the academic work carried on in class rooms and libraries. We believe that sound educational practices and theory condemn the divorce of physical exercise and supervision of health from the training of the mind. The old adage of a sound mind in a sound body has stood the test of centuries.

For that reason, the School of Physical Education is in an entirely different category from the School for Social Service and the School for Graduate Nurses. The Department of Physical Education has charge of the Medical Examination and medical care of the entire student body. It endeavours to inculcate healthful habits of life. It endeavours to provide adequate opportunity and facilities for participation in physical exercise. It also engages in remedial work, and seeks to apply those measures which benefit or cure the medically unfit. We have few playgrounds at McGill, and there are few open spaces in the vicinity of the University. Students are therefore prone