

January  
Eleventh  
1923.

Honourable Charles Stewart,  
Minister of The Interior,  
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:-

At my final interview with Mr. Cameron of your Forestry Department I told him that I would write formally to you acquainting you with the decision of McGill University re your demand that we provide rent free suitable quarters for the Forest Products Laboratories, failing which it was your intention to remove the Laboratories to Ottawa.

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When the Chancellor of the University (Mr. E. W. Beatty) wrote to you on the 6th of September it was our hope that the premises now occupied at 700 University Street could be put in such a condition of repair and safety that you would be justified in leaving the Laboratories where they are. Our engineers have decided that it would be unwise to make such an attempt.

I understand that if a new building were erected to give you the space required that building should furnish a floor space of 22,800 square feet and that some of the rooms would require ceiling heights of 28 feet, others from 12 to 14 feet. As the requirements for the Pulp and Paper division (6,400 sq. feet) could be easily provided for by small additions to the present Paper Mill Building, and as your requirements for the Testing Laboratories (1,100 sq. feet) already exist in the Engineering Building of the University, we might reduce your total building requirements to 15,300 square feet (22,800 less 7,500). To provide such a building harmonizing with the other buildings on McGill's campus would require an expenditure of University funds well