

April
Eighteenth
1923.

Dr. F. D. Adams,
Dean, Faculty of Applied Science,
McGill University.

My dear Dean:-

With reference to the memorandum left with me yesterday regarding 1st Year History in the Department of Architecture, I have come to the following conclusions:-

(1). That the Faculty of Applied Science were justified in concluding that a separate examination paper in History would be provided for the students in Architecture. Apparently a discussion over this has been going on for a long time, largely between Dr. Porter, representing the Faculty of Applied Science, and Professor Williams, the Head of the History Department. Probably better results would have been obtained had the Deans of the Faculties concerned taken up the matter at the start. I gathered also that when an agreement was found impossible the matter was brought up in the Arts Faculty and it, as a body, decided to support the Head of the History Department.

(2) I am not in agreement with that decision. I believe that the History Department might very well have provided the two papers this year and then raised the question as to the practice to be followed in future years. However, the decision has been made and I think it unwise to over-rule that decision, solely on the grounds of policy. Dr. Porter has threatened the Arts Faculty with retaliation, so that we have a regrettable state of affairs existing. If I over-ride the decision of the Arts Faculty the irritation will be increased. If I do not Science will feel that faith has not been kept with it.