

June 23, 1932.

E. W. Beatty, Esq., K.C., LL.D.,
Chancellor, McGill University.

My dear Chancellor,

You will remember writing me some time ago enclosing a letter from Mr. Howell relative to the widow of the late William Leach, formerly Vice Principal of the University. On its receipt I immediately wrote Dr. Francis McLennan asking him to see me and a few days ago we discussed the matter.

The situation is correctly outlined in Mr. Howell's letter to you, but Mr. McLennan was not agreeable to contributing anything himself towards a pension for Mrs. Leach. He contented himself by hoping that the University could do something for her.

It so happens that this matter came up indirectly as I was riding in from Dixie last Saturday with Mr. Henry Joseph, who told me that years ago he bought for the C.P.R. the right-of-way through what is now Montreal West, buying the property from the Trenholmes and another family, of whom the present Mrs. Leach was the heiress. It seems that the Reverend Mr. Leach was at that time about 69 years old. He suggested to his son that he should marry this young heiress, but the son refused; whereupon our former Vice Principal courted the young lady himself and married her. She was then 21 years of age. This would mean that in the last fifteen years of his life the Reverend Vice Principal was not badly off.