

McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL

FACULTY OF ARTS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G.,
Principal,
McGill University.

My dear Principal,

Forgive me for not answering on an earlier day your letter dated March 22nd, enclosing a memorandum by Mr. Lesslie R. Thomson making some suggestions looking towards a more effective organisation of immigration agencies in Canada. Mr. Thomson's plan is undoubtedly distinctly interesting and ingenious although, perhaps, not altogether novel, as similar devices have sometimes been employed in the United States and elsewhere in questions of great public interest and importance. There are, it seems to me, perhaps, four different ways in which problems of this kind may be investigated:-

1. By the appointment of the usual type of public commission or board, composed of politicians and laymen, authorised by Royal Commission to call and hear all necessary witnesses and to collate the results of evidence heard by them into a formal advisory report to be presented to the Government. This procedure has, I think, for reasons that are pretty widely known, not hitherto been a distinct success in the Government of Canada.

2. By appointing in similar manner a commission or board of experts who have already devoted some of their years to the special impartial study of the problem in question. Obviously this is likely to be a more effective method than the first. The members