

March 12, 1929

My dear Macdonnell:-

With reference to your letter of February 22nd and copies of your correspondence with Philip Kerr, I think the best reply I can give is a statement of the present status accorded to the Royal Military College graduates by Canadian universities.

On the recommendation of a joint committee established by the Universities Conference, it was decided by the Faculties of Applied Science in Toronto, McGill and Queen's that they would normally admit R.M.C. graduates to the Third Year. In very exceptional cases R.M.C. graduates are admitted to the Fourth Year in Civil Engineering only. The R.M.C. graduation standard is therefore regarded as equivalent to two years of study in Engineering following senior matriculation.

Senior matriculation is required for entrance to our Engineering School and therefore students in Engineering have covered one more year of work after High School than have Arts students at entrance, though the student entering Engineering is actually no further advanced in pure Arts subjects than is the student in Arts.

I find in the examination statutes of Oxford that an examination in Engineering Science alone will fulfil the requirements for the Honour School of Natural Science. The system is entirely different from ours and involves a more general acquaintance with more branches of Engineering. I do not think that the R.M.C. graduate would have the least difficulty in the work of this School or in satisfying the examiners at the end of it. I doubt, however, whether the Trust would be well advised to extend an invitation to R.M.C. graduates to take this Engineering course. It is not as well suited to Canadian requirements as that which they get at our own universities. I have spoken to the Secretary of the Engineering Institute who agrees with the foregoing views.