



MCGILL UNIVERSITY

April 7th, 1933.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, K.C.M.G., LL.D.
Principal, McGill University.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I have been turning over in my mind the conversation of yesterday in connection with the reduction in the expenses of each department and I feel that so little progress was made towards the solution of the problem that I would like to offer a suggestion whereby the Head of each Department would be more or less forced to make substantial savings in his Department and the solution of the problem would have to be submitted by him in writing to yourself.

I would suggest that it be definitely stated that his Budget for Salaries and Wages be cut by ten per cent and his Budget for other expenses by twenty-five per cent. If this were done throughout the University, the saving on Salaries and Wages would be approximately \$104,000.00 and the saving on appropriations approximately \$60,000.00. From this would have to be deducted the \$40,000.00 estimated unexpended appropriations so that the nett saving would be approximately \$124,000.00.

I feel that if this method was used, it might save a lot of time and discussion and would put the onus of proof on the Professor in case he contended that it was impossible to continue his Department under such circumstances.

In the particular case of the Salaries and Wages, the Department themselves could decide whether they all took a further ten per cent cut or whether it would be necessary to dispose of some of the staff.

I strongly suspect that we are overstaffed in some departments and I am still convinced that the time distribution sheet as submitted by me at the meeting of the Deans would show up a lot of weak spots, if it were conscientiously and properly answered.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Bentley
Comptroller.