

students to graduate by taking our third and fourth years only. It was represented that this would be in the interest of many deserving students. When we saw that they were equipped to do the work of the first two years, we gladly made the arrangement, knowing that it would result in the students from these localities going to these institutions for two years instead of coming to us. If further proof were needed to shew what our traditional policy has been, I have only to refer to the fact that Sir William Macdonald, one of our governors, has himself distributed money freely from the Atlantic to the Pacific in developing lines of educational work through other than university agencies, when these agencies were not suitable. Even Toronto has benefited by his magnificent generosity to the extent of some \$200,000, through the Agricultural College at Guelph.

I have referred to the circumstances which brought us in touch with your system. Through Vancouver and Victoria we have been working for a number of years, I believe greatly to the benefit of education in their High Schools. Throughout these years no pressure was ever brought to bear by us in any way to bring students to McGill. I believe, as a matter of fact, that the majority of the men who go east come to us, but that is absolutely of their own free will. May I add, that on matriculation we issue certificates to all students, certificates which will permit them to enter any university on this side of the Atlantic, Toronto included. We, in turn, accept Toronto certificates.

About a year ago it was suggested to us that there was a class of work much needed in British Columbia, namely, advanced scientific work, for which no provision was being made, and that there was an opportunity to take an advanced step in connection with our educational enterprises. Dr. Peterson had already been discussing with me the subject of a visit to our affiliated colleges to enquire into their work. He asked me to go to British Columbia and study the question and report to their Board of Governors. I did so, conferring with gentlemen in Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster, the Department of Education, and with those interested in education all over the Province, before finally making up my mind on the matter. I then reported to our Board, requesting them in the name of the University to take the step suggested, with a view especially to supplement what was already being done by advanced scientific work. I recommended that it be done by co-operating with one of the school boards and the calling into existence of a corporation of gentlemen who would be interested in the subject, the method of government to be fashioned after the Board at home. I frankly stated, and I state now, that I thought as this larger work would