

MRT

LA. 3937

MONTREAL REPERTORY THEATRE, INC.

1461 UNION AVENUE, MONTREAL, QUE.

April 19th, 1953.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
McGill University,
MONTREAL.

To
Dean MacKay
Dr. Macmillan

Dear Sir Arthur:-

please note
and return:

I am obliged for your letter of the 12th. I am very anxious, as you are, that no misunderstanding should arise between the University and the Repertory Theatre, so that I think it advisable to inform you of the actual circumstances, which, I think, will acquit M.R.T. of either neglect or discourtesy. The facts are these:

The Dominion Drama Festival is a loosely-bound establishment organized at Ottawa, and is presently under the direction of Colonel H. C. Osborne. Its purpose is to develop drama in Canada, and it adopted the scheme of dramatic productions with regional contests and a final presentation in Ottawa.

Had money been available for proper staff work, Osborne might have collected the names of all amateur, semi-professional and university groups in Canada, inviting them to participate in regional contests through which they might win a place in the final offering at Ottawa.

Instead of doing this, through economic reasons, as much publicity as could be obtained was given the affair, together with directions to would-be participants as to the regional centres to which they should apply.

Montreal Repertory Theatre in this section had nothing whatever to do with the matter, and it did not send notices to anyone, neither did it have any authority, either to issue invitations, or to accept or reject applying groups.

Miss Martha Allan is Chairman of the Western Quebec Region and in that capacity she discussed the affair with various people, among whom were Miss Leona