October 8th, 1931.

Professor R. Summerby,
Macdonald College, P. Q.

My dear Professor Summerby,

I have your letter of October 3. It is quite true that I wrote to you on October 6, 1930 and told you that you might "depend upon $4,500 per annum next year".

Dean Barton made this recommendation and I supported it, but the Finance Committee felt, in view of the very great stringency and the fact that no salaries were increased (except one or two, because of death in the Faculty, and promotions to more responsible positions), that they could not sanction it this year.

They meet shortly, and I shall bring the matter up again. I am more than sorry if by any action of ours you have lost the position of Dominion Agrostologist. This is the first time I ever heard of this particular position; in fact, I will acknowledge that I never before saw the word until I read it in your letter. What was always my intention was to meet in every the revised salaries which were to be put into effect as a result of the recommendations of the Beatty report. Of course, that report was never approved by Parliament and the Ottawa salaries were not revised.

May I point out to you that the majority of professors in the University are not as well paid asyou are. You receive your house at a rental of $725 a year, which includes heat and light, etc., and of course there are no taxes. I feel quite certain that even had you got the position in Ottawa at $5000 a year you would not be as well off as you are at Macdonald at $4200.