

conclusion could be more erroneous. The nature of the subject is such that the vast majority who pass through our Honour Course in Mathematics and Physics elect to meet thesis requirements in the latter. However the Department is annually required to provide graduate instruction for students proceeding to higher degrees in other subjects as well as for students who may elect their thesis work in pure mathematics. In fact, out of consideration of the number of students proceeding to higher degrees in Physics, the Department via Professor Gillson provides annually graduate instruction in Mathematics adapted to the immediate needs of those on the threshold of graduate training in Mathematics.

In our 1929 report it was pointed out that a Mathematical Library suitable for work of a Ph.D. standard, could not be built up in a few days by waving a wand. Such an achievement is a matter of careful selection and expenditure over a period of years; and this desired goal, as stated above, is being gradually attained. Our convictions in 1929 were that the demand for the Ph.D. in Mathematics at McGill was not such as to warrant us in recommending the high salaried additions to staff necessary to provide Ph.D. facilities even if the Library were adequate. We have not in the meantime found any reason whatsoever for changing our sincere beliefs in this respect. We are moreover of the opinion that phantom excursions into rainbow realms, and Yuletide yearnings for the spectacular, which ignore or overlook the primary importance of thorough undergraduate training, are fundamentally unsound.

We believe that students obtaining first class standing in our Honour Course have received a training in Mathematics equivalent (apart from thesis) to that required for the M.A. or M.Sc. degree in many of the leading universities on this continent. It is our desire that our Master's degree should possess a corresponding standard of excellence. In order that these high standards may be definitely secured and not in the future become paper perfection, it is necessary that our 1929 recommendations for certain additional junior help be implemented.