



MCGILL UNIVERSITY

2.

December 22nd, 1932.

Dr. Abbott, who has always been Curator of these collections, was last year given a different title, namely, "Curator of the Medical Historical Museum", in order to distinguish this Museum from the Pathological ones in the Hospitals.

After all, this material is merely a collection and, perhaps, we are at the present juncture stressing the point too much to dignify it by the name of Museum of the History of Medicine. On the other hand, this point was stressed chiefly because efforts were being made in Toronto to dislocate from the office of the Canadian Medical Association here in Montreal valuable historical material, which was the property of the Medical Association, but of which we here were custodians.

Professor Oertel - who brought forward the motion at the last Faculty Meeting to have the Professor of the History of Medicine as Director of such a collection - based his motion on the theory that somebody who was an authority on the subject should supervise the work of a curator.

May I add that the material up to date is merely a collection, to be ultimately formed into a museum, and that we have separate letter-heads, designating it as the Museum of the History of Medicine, merely for the sake of encouraging the idea among those who are willing to contribute. There is, of course, no thought of creating any separate organization, which would add to the expense of the University, nor of utilizing any space other than at present existing in our Central Museum. In short, it is simply the long established "Central Medical Museum" with a different name.

Trusting that this explanation is satisfactory, believe me,

Faithfully yours,

*C. Martin*

DEAN.