

Sir A. Currie.

The Joint University Council for Social Study was started in Great Britain in 1917 by the Government and workers in close touch with the Labour Department and the Home Office. The members of the Council Committee include representatives of employers, workers, Welfare Institutes, Labour Department and the Universities. Sir Edward Penton and Sir Benjamin Johnson (Dyers) represent their own big firms and the employers' interests, on this committee.

These leaders in the United States and Great Britain cannot all, for the last fifteen or twenty years, be facing in a wrong direction. I feel that they have vision and are building wisely for the future, as well as the present. I feel, therefore, that McGill will not err in continuing the Social Service Department even if it is to be at a loss for some years to come, owing to our peculiar situation and difficulties. It would seem to me that closing the Department now would not only be an admission of failure, but would show a lack of vision of the future opportunities for legitimate university service along these lines. It is not only a question of finance, but one of reputation and administration. Social work is still in its infancy and difficulties exist naturally, in the development of the work. They are increased in this province and this city by reason of our local racial and religious conditions, but I think they can be met and overcome;—and the extent of our possible service to the community warrants, in my mind, every effort to find the right way of expressing this service in a Social Service Department.

Mr. Falk may, or may not, be the right Director, but I think he is the best one we can find at present. Of British birth and high ideals, with valuable practical experience, an Oxford man and a hard worker, I do not think we can do better than give him a further trial. Even if he fails, I still think the Department should continue.

Sincerely yours,

*Wm R. Reid.*

HRJR/R

P.S. The School for Graduate Nurses taps the Social Service Department for six Courses all of which would have to be put on for them specially if the Social Service Department founders.