

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT

MONTREAL

March 12th, 1932.

My dear Sir Arthur,-

I have your note of the 4th instant with extract from letter from M. Ferdinand Roy, Dean of the Faculty of Law of Laval University, Quebec.

You must be very gratified at M. Roy's appreciation, and I can well understand that, comparatively speaking at all events, McGill Law School would impress even as critical a man as he is.

You will be surprised to know that, in speaking a few days ago to one of the most prominent members of the Canadian Bar, I was seriously asked the question whether, in my judgment, a college education was of any value to a lawyer. This man had himself not had the opportunity of taking an Arts course, but was called to the Bar under the system which still prevails in Ontario of five years apprenticeship and the passing of law school examinations.

The fact that the advantages of a college education are not evidenced by a considerable number of those who graduate still leads to the view that its advantages are at least doubtful.

In Ontario, if a law student is a graduate of a University, he requires three years in an office and attendance at law school which means seven years in all. If he is not, he can qualify by passing his law school examinations and serving five years indentured to a member of the Bar. This means that a boy matriculating at 16 can become a full-fledged lawyer at 21, and this explains in some measure the fact that we have so many uneducated lawyers in the profession.

Sincerely yours,

Sir Arthur Currie, G. C. M. G.,
Principal,
McGill University,
MONTREAL, Que.

