

COMMENTS BY T.H. MATTHEWS

1. I agree that there must be very effective cooperation between the University and the Department.

Since a number of students in the High Schools are coming to McGill and since the Department wishes their examination to be recognized, it is natural that they should consult us, but I do not think this in any way necessitates cooperation in the actual conduct of the two examinations.

2(a) Why should a joint board responsible for our Matriculation Examination derive its authority solely from the Protestant Committee? Is not this an infringement of the University Statutes? Chapter V, paragraph 7 (g) states that it is a duty of Corporation "to fix all qualifications and requirements for entrance or matriculation".

2(b) Why does Professor Clarke say "the same schools and teaching facilities are concerned in both examinations"? No school that prepares for the High School Leaving Examination also prepares for Matriculation, and vice versa. If, therefore, the courses of study were not identical, and I strongly favour variety in education, there would be no confusion, as there is no confusion in England where eight different authorities conduct school certificate examinations.

3. Professor Clarke says "If Joint Board methods really have failed". They have never been tried. The system for the last three or four years has been one in which the examination has been prepared by the Protestant Committee, and the University has accepted the examiners and the papers without discussion. This I think is a thoroughly bad system which has led to poor papers, and has made it impossible for the University really to assist in improving the School Leaving Examination.