

Building Committee debated the matter of the gymnasium site at three meetings, at one of which they met representatives from the student-body. In the interval between two of those meetings I called a meeting at which were present about thirty representative students, Mr. Ross and Dr. Lamb, where all views were aired. The Board of Governors considered it at two of their meetings before a final decision was made.

I may say that we have consulted with College Presidents and with the leaders in Physical Education and students' athletics of many of the leading universities of the eastern states. The opinion of these men was unanimously in agreement with the decision to which the Board of Governors had come.

You speak of the opinions you have heard from many students and members of the staff. Let me say that I have received a great many assurances from a great many students that in their opinion the Board of Governors had come to the proper decision. Many of these students have stated that the serious-thinking students of the University are generally in favour of the decision, though we all realize that those students most closely associated with football and track activities favour the stadium site. We have given the assurance to these students that we will erect at the stadium a building giving them the facilities for shower baths, dressing rooms, etc., so urgently required there.

The opinion amongst those at McGill and in the leading universities of the United States who have given deep study to the question of student athletic activities is that there is nothing in common between a stadium and a gymnasium, and that if physical education is ever to attain the dignified place it deserves, the gymnasium must be placed amongst the other academic buildings.