

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY
OF CANADA

Sir Arthur Currie.

California the total number of students has grown from 5,614 in 1914 to 15,580 at the time of the last returns, but the students in the Agricultural Department have dropped from 597 to 515. In Ohio the agricultural students dropped from 795 to 530, and in Illinois from 1,046 to 637.

The problem which you have to face is one that may be said to be common to all Agricultural Colleges, but I cannot help thinking that in the case of Macdonald the problem is even more acute than elsewhere. Our circumstances in this province are unusual. The English-speaking farming population of Quebec, and of Eastern Ontario, for whose benefit it may be said that Macdonald College was primarily established, is distinctly limited. Your field therefore is relatively small, when compared with the farming population of Ontario, or of any of the great States of the American Union. A programme of studies which might possibly be desirable under other circumstances, might be for Macdonald very unsuitable in view of that limited population.

I remember being told at the time Sir William Macdonald founded the Ste. Annes College, that his object was to assist the English-speaking farmers of the Province of Quebec. Your problem, therefore, would seem to be, how to direct the activities of Macdonald College so as to help that farming population to the greatest extent. In other words, what can Macdonald College do in the way of training our young farmers and farmers' sons, so that they be more efficient in their farm work, produce larger and better crops, get more profit from their farm animals, be better business men, obtain the highest prices for what they have to sell, and, in short, be better farmers