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McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

March 26th, 1931.

Dr. Ira A. MacKay,
Dean, Faculty of Arts.

Dear Dean MacKay,

In re- memorandum on Principal's Special Committee and attached questionnaire, it would seem scarcely necessary to recount anew that portion of our recent report to Dean Eve which pertains solely to graduate work. Since however graduate work is inseparably related to the more fundamental and primary undergraduate work, there are certain points already submitted to the Committee which naturally find a place in the present report. With regard to several of the topics suggested for consideration, it seems reasonable to assume that detailed statistical information concerning these is duly and systematically filed in the administrative offices. We have neither the information at hand nor the time to study adequately such broad questions as: International Relations, Fine Arts, Etc.; consequently we do not presume to proffer comment on the establishment of such departments at McGill. There is however an unalterable principle of mechanics to the effect that the \bar{G} of a structure must not lie beyond the base of support. The advantages to be derived from the study of mathematics might constitute a suitable topic for juvenile debate; but it appears unnecessary to expatiate on that which has been accepted by those engaged in education for centuries. For the reasons intimated, we shall confine our observations to matters relevant to mathematical work in the Faculty of Arts. These matters fall under two headings, viz.; Library facilities and Staff.

We are gratified with the progress of the Mathematical Library, which within six years has been transformed from a puny ^{and} bizarre aggregation of