

MACDONALD COLLEGE

McGILL UNIVERSITY

RAILWAY STATIONS AND EXPRESS;
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT OF POULTRY HUSBANDRY

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

August 28, 1933.

Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
McGill University,
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur:

A copy of your letter of August 1st, with reference to the young stock being ranged at the Poultry Department, was received by me when in Chicago two weeks ago. After returning to the College last week I took up this matter with Dr. Snell and Dr. Conklin.

In order that you have a clear understanding of the situation I beg to inform you of the matter more fully.

We had three lots of birds, two of which were cockerels and one of capons, on special meat experimentation which had to be handled separate from the young stock being ranged at Baie d'Urfé. The two lots of cockerels were placed on the range which has in the past been used entirely by adult stock, and is not a part of the land used for rearing young stock. These cockerels were to be fattened and killed at different stages of growth in a special problem which is being studied with reference to the possibilities of producing a special class of poultry meat for export to Great Britain, and especially the London market.

Dr. Conklin was told verbally why these cockerels were being held, and also, that they were being placed on the adult range, which was in hay for horse feed this year, and that it was to be treated and cultivated during the late summer or fall. Part of this range was used during the summer for horse grazing and then treated with lime. Dr. Conklin did not offer any objection to the practice at the time of being advised.

About a week after the second lot of cockerels was placed on one section of the range I personally noticed a few birds off condition, and I immediately killed and posted one bird finding it to be suffering from blackhead. I immediately took the liver of that bird to Dr. Conklin's laboratory for further checking of the condition and the report was the same. I then took a second bird to Dr. Conklin's laboratory for post mortem examination, and it was also reported as suffering from blackhead.