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MACDONALD COLLEGE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES :  
STE-ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE : MACDONALD COLLEGE QUE., CANADA.

Dec. 23rd., 1921.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, LL.D., G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,  
Principal, McGill University,  
Montreal,  
Que.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

Referring to your letter of Dec. 16th., the statement that I think you heard was that it would not be possible for the Quebec Department of Agriculture to carry on the school fairs in the same manner as was done in the past, owing to the high cost of doing the work.

This work has been paid for from the fund which we receive from the Province of Quebec through the provisions of the Federal Act of 1913. It has cost between \$6,000.00 and \$7,000.00. This is a larger amount than we used to spend, but it has been occasioned by the high cost of travelling, due to the increase in railway fare, and the difficulty of visiting schools and children unless with the aid of an automobile, the hiring of which is expensive but cannot be avoided.

The work undertaken by the College has been somewhat more ambitious, more energetically carried out, and more thorough than that done by the county representatives appointed from the Quebec Department of Agriculture. Every school board has been visited, and all the officials in connection with these boards have been given first-hand information as to our plans. In the spring, each school was visited and a lecture given to impress the children with the value of the work, and to attempt to study them individually. During the months of May, June and part of July, children were gathered from four or five one-roomed schools at the community centre, where they were coached in agriculture, household science and athletics. In July and August, nearly two thousand children were visited at their homes, and in September, the school fairs were held, and lectures given on the exhibits and the reasons for the awarding of the prizes. The remaining months of the year were taken up with reports and a final visit to the schools.