

## MCGILL UNIVERSITY

## MONTREAL

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES  
REGARDING THE NECESSITY OF A FRENCH HOUSE.

One of the most urgent needs of my Department, as I have already pointed out in several reports addressed to the Principal, is the establishing of a French House, meaning a dormitory for men or for women students, or for both, where French alone is spoken, and under the supervision of the French Department.

Every year I receive many inquiries from students, or from prospective students of McGill, asking about the possibility of living in a French family where good French is spoken. I am sorry to say that I am unable to give them any satisfaction. There are very few French families here, and French Canadian families where good French is spoken are not willing to take boarders. I notice that these inquiries come not only from Arts students, but from students in other faculties, or from graduate students who wish to take this opportunity to learn spoken French outside of their regular studies. Moreover I notice that in my Department quite a number of students, coming from other provinces than Quebec, find great difficulty in following our courses, given exclusively in French. In spite of their keenness to learn, I have great difficulty in helping them.

The only solution to these problems is the establishment of a dormitory where no other language but French would be allowed. During meals or other social functions taking place there, the students would have the opportunity of learning spoken French, under French instructors.

The financial prosperity of such a dormitory, to be called a French House, or "Maison Française", would be assured, as witness the results obtained in the French Summer School.

I need not dwell longer upon the details of such a project, since they have already been submitted to the Principal's office and to the Governors. Suffice it to say that I regard the realization of such a project as absolutely indispensable to the successful functioning of the French Department at McGill.

*R. du Pours*