THE MCGILL NEWS, MONTREAL



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THE MONTREAL HARBOUR BRIDGE In the construction of this bridge, spanning the St. Lawrence River and formally opened on May 24th, many McGill men were associ-ated, the number including Dean H. M. MacKay, of the Faculty of Applied Science, who served on the Advisory Board of Engineers. The main span of the bridge is 1,937 feet long, and the total length of steel construction is 8,817 feet. The bridge clears the Ship Channel below by 163 feet and includes in its entirety 33,285 tons of steel.

Development of the Faculty of Applied Science

By H. M. MACKAY

DEEPLY charred piece of apple wood lying on my desk recalls some significant days in the history of the Faculty of Applied Science. It was one of the first products of the Thomas Workman shops and originally formed part of the ceremonial mallet used by Lord Stanley of Preston, the Governor-General of the the time, in laying the corner-stone of the first Macdonald Engineering Building, on October 30th, 1890. So far as is now known, its career for many years was uneventful; but in the great fire of 1907 it was a casualty and, indeed, almost a total loss.

The little procession which marched over the rainsoaked ground from the Redpath Museum on that gloomy autumn day forty years ago marked the beginning of the modern history of engineering training at McGill. True, "there were brave kings before Agamemnon".

The Hamiltons, Carlyle and Mathewson had already begun their careers as miners and metallurgists. Several others whose professional distinction has not been surpassed by their successors were making their way in other branches. But the success of these men was due more to their native energy and ability, and to the personality of such pioneers as Bovey, Chandler, Harrington and McLeod, than to any curriculum or equipment which would be considered tolerable in a modern engineering school.

The building was ready to receive students in the autumn of 1891. A year later the equipment, on an extraordinarily liberal scale for the time, was practically completed. Early in 1893 the formal opening of the Macdonald Engineering and Physics Buildings took place with functions which lasted nearly all day and far