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WHO WILL BE THE NEW PRINCIPAL OF MACDONALD COLLEGE?

The Position one of Great Importance and Far Reaching Influence.—It Requires a Man of Outstanding Ability and Special Qualifications—Such a Man Suggested

THE interests of the farmers of Canada—particularly those of Quebec and Eastern Ontario—are concerned in the selection of the new principal of Macdonald College, Que. This is the position left vacant through the resignation of Dr. Jas. W. Robertson.

With not more than one or two exceptions, and possibly none, no man in Canada will have greater opportunities to benefit and assist the farmers of Canada, and to elevate the agricultural standards of the Dominion, than the principal of this great institution. The position calls for a man of outstanding ability. The principal must possess unusual versatility. He should be a man who has been born and brought up on a farm and whose knowledge thus gained has been extended and made efficient to a high degree by a thorough agricultural college training both as student and director. No matter how well fitted he may be in other respects, if he lacks these qualifications he will fail to command the respect and confidence of the farmers of the country to the extent that is requisite to promote the best interests both of the farmers and of the college.

The principal must be a man of strong moral character, high ideals, broad culture and wide sympathies. Otherwise he will not be able to leave the best impressions on the minds of the hundreds of students who each year will come under his influence and whose standards of what is true and noble and good will be moulded in a considerable degree by his personality.

He must be a man of pronounced and trained executive ability. This is required in order that the numerous departments of the great college over which he will preside may be kept working harmoniously and effectively. Only those who have had some opportunity to observe for themselves can have any adequate conception of the amount of time and tact that is required to smooth out the difficulties and remove the friction that is always engendered where hundreds of students and, yes, even college professors, and their wives, are living in the close relationship of college life.

As research and experimental work of vast importance to agriculture is a part of the college work, the principal must be an experienced experimentalist; otherwise he will not be able to give the trained oversight to the experimental work of the college that its importance, and the expenditures that will be involved, will require.

Another consideration of great importance is the fact that an institution like Macdonald College requires at its head a leader—a man who will do things. The progress of the college as an institution will be regulated by the degree in which the principal is able to set the pace. He must be competent to read the signs of the times and the needs of the people, to devise methods for improvement and to enlist the great forces he will

have under his control, in their practical application. Only such a man will be able to gain the confidence and support of all classes interested in the welfare of the institution and ultimately establish Macdonald College as one of the great agricultural colleges of the world, if not the greatest.

SALARY QUESTION IMPORTANT.

It would be folly to expect to secure a man of



President A. M. Soule, Athens, Ga.

A Canadian who has made a great reputation in agricultural work in the United States, and who is president of the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts for the State of Georgia. Farm and Dairy would like to see him appointed Principal of Macdonald College, Quebec.

this type for a small salary. A man having the ability to perform the duties of the principalship of Macdonald College properly could, were he to apply himself to the practice of law or to business, easily earn ten times as much as does the average college professor. That our competitors the Danes appreciate the importance of paying a good man well is shown by the fact—as recorded in the report of the Dominion Swine Commission—that the salesmen for some of their co-operative Lacon factories have been paid salaries as high as \$10,000 a year. Even if we do not pay it, surely we must admit that the services of the principals of our great agricultural colleges should be worth as much to us. When the right man is found for Macdonald College a salary of \$5,000 to \$7,000 a year will not be out of the way.

A GREAT INSTITUTION.

Macdonald College, as stated in its announcement for 1909-10, was founded, erected, equipped

and endowed by one man—Sir William C. Macdonald of Montreal. This great gift to the people, and more especially to the farmers, of Canada, cannot well be too highly appreciated. History records few greater acts of generosity and none better planned to be productive of the highest degree of public good. It is understood that Sir William has already expended over \$3,250,000 on the grounds and buildings of the College besides endowing it with \$2,000,000. The College property comprises 561 acres of land, while the buildings provide accommodation for 425 regular students and professors. Over 300 students are now taking the college course. All this only serves to emphasize more clearly the absolute

necessity for securing as head of this great institution a man possessing the greatest possible degree of ability. It is fortunate that we can depend upon it that Sir William Macdonald appreciates these facts and that he will not allow a small matter in the way of salary—as our provincial governments sometimes do—to stand in the way of the appointment of the right man for the position.

A PRINCIPAL SUGGESTED.

Farm and Dairy appreciates fully the great interest of Sir William, in Macdonald College, and as we, to a large extent, represent the farmers for whom the College was established, we have decided to venture to suggest for the principalship of the College the name of a man who we know possesses in a marked degree the necessary qualifications and whose appointment we are satisfied would meet with the general approval of the agricultural community. We refer to Andrew M. Soule, once a Canadian farm boy, who is now the president of the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts for the State of Georgia, and whose career in the United States has been one of which every farmer in Canada may well feel proud. In mentioning the name of President Soule, we desire to have it clearly understood that we decided to suggest his appointment without consulting him. We have no assurance that President Soule could be prevailed upon to accept the appointment.

Two years ago Farm and Dairy was endeavoring to secure as editor-in-chief a man of strong personality and broad agricultural training. We were prepared to pay, to the right man, a larger salary than is now being paid to any professor in any agricultural college in Canada. After looking over the field in both Canada and the United States we picked out President Soule. During a visit of President Soule to Canada, in the summer of 1908, the position was offered to him. After giving the matter some consideration, he declined it, his chief reason for doing so being that the State Legislature of Georgia had just unanimously voted over \$100,000 to extend the work of the agricultural college along lines that had been recommended by him. President Soule felt that he was in duty bound to remain with the College at least until his plans had been carried into practical effect. We found then that President Soule was drawing a much larger salary than any