

ideas, is the most important of all social agencies in human civilisation. All human communications involve the use of language. Mathematics and the sciences, too, are also highly social studies. Economics seems to lag far behind. All vital practical problems in economics at the present time turn upon the application of science to industry. History and political science are obviously closely related to all social and human studies. I suggest, therefore, that we should be well advised at McGill to undertake these problems in a less extensive and more intensive way than they have done at Yale. Much better, I think, that we should attempt the study of a few carefully selected unique problems affecting social and economic conditions in this community, and for that purpose that we should form a small group of professors and well-trained students to undertake the study of these problems. It would not be difficult, I think, to offer a plan of organisation for a school of this kind. Each student would have a committee of three or four professors chosen from contributing departments, and in this way we should have a small group of professors and a number of small groups of students working upon a group of closely related original studies.

We can already undertake to lay the undergraduate foundations for a school of this kind at McGill in social science, economics, political science, psychology and ethics. If the venture prospers we should soon need new appointments in social and industrial psychology and in social ethics. A Chair of International Relations is long overdue in this University, and a department in this subject would have much to contribute to the plan we have in mind.

Just what part the study of law should play in a school designed in this way is more problematical. The law is in theory nothing more than a system of social relations enforced by the sovereign authority in the state, but it is also a highly technical and professional study. Only well-trained students in the law are really qualified to contribute much to a plan such as the one we have in mind. The philosophy of law, too, is a vast subject and far, I think, beyond