

STATEMENT ISSUED BY PRINCIPAL

Makes Statement Regarding Gym-Dormitory Building

SALARIES RAISED

Large Sum of Money Spent on New Accommodation

The following statement, in connection with the Gymnasium-Dormitory building, has been received from the Principal, Sir Arthur Currie, and will undoubtedly prove of interest to every member of the student body:

The Editor, McGill Daily:

Dear Sir.—My respect and admiration for the esprit de corps of the student-body of McGill influences me to make some observations and to give some facts regarding the proposed Gymnasium-Dormitory building.

This is not a new subject. It has been debated and discussed by Governors, graduates and students of the University before either the present student-body or myself ever thought of having any association with McGill. Speaking on behalf of the Board of Governors and of the other members of Corporation I can say that every argument advanced in support of the urgent need of dormitories and the gymnasium receives our warm approval. It would be wrong, unjust and unfair for anyone to charge the Board of Governors with indifference regarding the provision of this Gymnasium-Dormitory building, but up to the present we have been unable to find the necessary funds to carry on that work. The cost of the proposed building is in the neighbourhood of \$800,000, but there is available the Douglas bequest, amounting to about \$300,000. The annual cost of borrowing the net amount (\$500,000) would be \$30,000, and had the Board of Governors authorized the erection of such a building it would have been necessary to borrow the money for such a purpose or for some other purposes which the Board has considered to be more important.

You may ask what these purposes are. In November, 1920, as the result of an appeal to the graduates, the students, and other friends and well-wishers of McGill, there was pledged the amount of, roughly, \$6400,000. It must not be forgotten that the privilege was granted the donors of paying their gifts in instalments spread over five years. The amount already paid in is most satisfactory, but still there is a considerable sum outstanding. In the light of past experiences it would be too much to hope that every cent pledged will be paid, and in their consideration of the funds available the Board of Governors must bear this fact in mind. The first building operations authorized by the Board of Governors since the campaign was the extension to the Library. The actual cost of the exten-

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