

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK CITY

August 1, 1923

Sir Arthur Currie
McGill University
Montreal, Canada

Dear Sir Arthur:

I have just received your letter and I am delighted to hear that Woodhead has finally accepted the position. He is an excellent man and is not only a brilliant Latin and Greek scholar but has been very successful in teaching in Toronto.

I know Leon Richardson very well. I met him first many years ago when I was a student in Rome and I have seen him at different times since. I was an exchange Professor at the University of California about five or six years ago and was with him a good deal. On the personal side, he is an excellent fellow but I disagree entirely with Dean West in regard to his fitness for ^{the} deanship of McGill. He wouldn't do at all. He has never got anywhere in classical studies and when last I heard of him he was doing very little work in the Classical Department in California. He had been given a job of Director of Extension Work or something of that kind. He has no standing as a scholar.

I fail to follow Ira Mackay's reasoning but if he feels that way I suppose nothing can be done about it.

I had a letter from Leacock the other day about the vacancies in his department. He said something about John Farthing to whom you refer. I doubt very much whether he ought to be appointed. In his letter Leacock says that he has not taken honors in Economics. Does this really not settle the question? We must have specialists in that department as well as in the others. If I am right in supposing that he has had no experience in teaching, I think that three thousand dollars would be a great deal too much for him. Leacock's idea is that his work should be chiefly in the Economics in the School of Commerce. This would not in my opinion be a good arrangement. In the first place, the School of Commerce is one of the most flourishing parts of McGill, and the students there are entitled a certain degree of