

March
Fourteenth
1923.

Alfred J. T. Taylor, Esq.,
1107 Bank of Hamilton Building,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Mr. Taylor:-

With further reference to your letter of March 7th let me say that I have given earnest thought to the suggestion of offering prizes for essays on "Canada North of 56".

I consider the subject an excellent one and good value ought to result from the information gathered together and presented by the essayists. We at McGill will give the project every encouragement. At the same time I see no reason why the essayists should be divided into two classes - one from the Universities and one from outside. Your main purpose is to obtain a series of valuable contributions to the subject dealt with and the worth of the essays should be judged, I consider, on that fact alone. Certainly the essays must be original, but I do not see any good and sufficient reason for limiting them to thirty thousand words. I know your desire is to force the essayists to condense to the greatest degree, and while the terms of the competition should set forth that that factor will be taken into consideration, I think it would be wrong to set the limit you suggest.

I agree with the dates suggested - April 15th next for the announcement and October 1st, 1924 as the date on which the essays are to be in the hands of the Secretary, whose name and address is to be announced later.

If I were determining the conditions I would be disposed to divide the \$2,000. into three