

COPY

Copy of Recommendations Submitted to Sir Arthur Currie by the
Advisory Committee on Agriculture.

Sir Arthur W. Currie,
Principal, McGill University.

Sir:-

Your Advisory Committee on Agriculture after having carefully examined the organization of Macdonald College as shown in the statements of the heads of departments and as brought to light by personal contact with the college organization for many years, wish to make the following recommendations.

1. The office of Principal as now occupied is nonproductive and for the present can be eliminated.
2. Administrative power should be given to the heads of the three schools of Agriculture, Normal School, and School of Household Science.
3. This will necessitate the appointment of an active Dean of Agriculture.
4. The financial estimates should be taken by the Deans accompanied by the heads of their more important sub-departments when necessary direct to the finance committee of the University and the departmental heads must there justify all proposed expenditure as would be done in any other business.
5. The executive committee as presently organized consisting of the Principal of McGill University, Chairman, the Vice-Principal and the Deans of Agriculture, School for Teachers and School for Household Science shall constitute the active administrative committee. The Dean of the School for Teachers holding the position of Vice-Chairman.

Your committee feels that in its own constitution a somewhat broader representation of interests should be secured and would therefore respectfully suggest the names of Mr. Peter Reid and Mr. Cleveland Morgan as Horticulturalists and possibly a representative of the Poultry Industry.

The above proposals may appear to you to be revolutionary yet we are nevertheless confident that we can justify their soundness in the give and take of argument. We further feel that these changes will render possible the rebalancing of activity which is in our opinion absolutely essential. We do not wish to be understood as seeking to abolish any single present activity of the college.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

1. Macdonald College shall ^{be} ~~rank as a~~ College of McGill University and, ^{with its own faculty} ~~except~~ when otherwise specially provided by law or by regulation or by the terms of the college endowments or where inapplicable to conditions in fact, all statutes, rules, regulations and by-laws of McGill University and of the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning shall have full force and effect in the government and administration of the College.
2. All statutes and regulations of McGill University and of the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning in relation to the powers and duties of the Board of Governors and of the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University shall apply in like manner to the Government of Macdonald College and to the administration of its separate property, finances, funds and assets, except when altered from time to time by the Board in special relation to the affairs of the College.
3. All officers, employees and servants of the College, including all officers of instruction and research shall be appointed or employed by the Board of Governors of McGill University upon the recommendation of the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University acting in consultation with the Principal of the College and the said Board shall also exercise all powers of dismissal.
4. The College shall be composed of four schools, viz., The School of Science in Agriculture, The School of ^{Practical} Agriculture, The School for Teachers, The School of Household Science, and the Deans or other Heads of these schools shall be responsible, under the Faculty, for the care, direction and management of their respective Schools.

5. The Faculty of Macdonald College shall rank as a Faculty of the University and all statutes and regulations of the University in relation to the composition, organization and government of Faculties generally shall apply in the case of this Faculty, except as hereinafter otherwise provided.
6. All courses of study and all matters in relation to the teaching and training of students in The School for Teachers shall be subject at all times to the School Law of the Province and to the provisions of the Agreement between His Majesty the King in right of the Province of Quebec and The Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning, dated the Twenty-fifth (25th) day of February, A.D. 1907, and ratified by Chapter Twenty-six (26) of the Statutes of the Province for that year, or any other acts or agreements amending or replacing the same.
7. All courses of study in the College leading to a University degree shall be subject to the approval of the Corporation of McGill University and all examinations qualifying for a degree in these subjects shall be under the control of the University.
8. The Principal of McGill University shall be Chairman of the Faculty of Macdonald College, and one of the members of that Faculty shall be appointed Principal of the College and Vice-Chairman of the Faculty, and he shall when so appointed perform all his duties and offices, including the duties and offices hereinafter specified, subject to the Board of Governors and under the general supervision and direction of the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University.
9. The Principal and Vice-Chairman of the College shall generally perform the like duties and powers in relation to the College as are ordinarily performed by the Dean of a Faculty in relation to such faculty and the grounds and buildings allocated to it, as well as other

duties and powers which may be specially assigned to or conferred upon him from time to time by the Board of Governors.

10. He shall have power to suspend any member of the teaching staff of the College and any officer or employee thereof and when he shall exercise such power he shall forthwith report his action to the Principal of the University with a statement of his reasons therefor, and the Principal of the University shall then bring the matter before the Board of Governors after taking such action in the matter as he may deem necessary or expedient in the meantime.

11. Subject at all times to the School Law of the Province he shall have full power and superintendence over the peace, order and good government of the student body in the residences, lecture halls, dining halls and generally in and about the College land, buildings and premises, and for this purpose he shall act in ^{consultation} committee with the heads of the constituent schools of the College.

12. He shall report annually to the Principal and Vice-Chancellor upon the work of the College and its requirements and make such recommendations thereon as he may deem advisable.

13. There shall be a Bursar for Macdonald College to be appointed by the Board of Governors and he shall have the following powers and duties: To keep accurate books of account of all revenues, receipts and expenditures of the College with all requisite vouchers; to collect and account for all moneys, rents and revenues of the College, except those derived from outside investments of the College funds and endowments, and to lodge the same to the credit of "The Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning, Trustees of Macdonald College", in such chartered bank as may be designated by the Governors; to pay by his cheque all outstanding claims and salaries payable from College funds, said cheques to be countersigned or signed in such manner and form and subject to such orders as the said Governors

subject to the direction
may from time to time authorize or direct; to supervise, ~~all employees and subor-~~
~~of the Principal and in cooperation with the departments concerned~~ ^{(a) all employees and subordinate}
~~inate staff in the same manner as is done by the Bursar of the University;~~ ^{staff}
(b) ~~to supervise~~ all buildings and their lighting and heating; ^(c) ~~to administer~~ the
kitchen and meals; to inspect all lands, buildings and other property of the
College and upon consultation with the Principal of the College to report
promptly to the Governors all necessary improvements, repairs and expenditures
thereon, and to superintend under their direction the execution of such
repairs and expenditures; to present to the Board of Governors through the
Bursar of the University all usual and necessary statements and reports
exhibiting and setting out all revenues, receipts and disbursements of the
college and all matters affecting its finances and property; and generally to
perform the like duties and powers in relation to the College as are ordinarily
performed by the Bursar of the University in relation to the University as
a whole as well as all other additional duties and powers which may be specially
assigned to or conferred upon him from time to time by the Board of Governors.

14. There shall be a standing executive committee of the
College to be known as "The Executive Committee of Macdonald College." The
members of the Committee shall be the Principal of the University and the
respective Heads of the Schools. The Committee shall, subject to the Faculty
of the College, be responsible for the arrangement and co-ordination of:
(a) all academic matters affecting more than one of its constituent schools,
including matters of morals and discipline, (b) all short courses and
extension courses and all other college courses of study not leading to a
University degree and (c) all matters of academic interest not already covered
by these statutes or by the general statutes, rules and regulations of the
University. Meetings of the Committee may be convoked at any time by the
call of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and three members shall constitute
a quorum for the transaction of business. No decision of the Committee
involving any alteration in curriculum shall have effect until approved by
the Faculty.

15. Nothing contained in this chapter shall be read so as to limit in any way the power of the Board of Governors to appoint, create and constitute any further committees or offices of management as they may deem advisable from time to time for the more orderly and efficient administration of the College and its affairs.

Private

MEMORANDUM REGARDING MACDONALD COLLEGE.

November 24, 1925.

1. COMMITTEE . I had a conversation with Edgar Budge who is anxious to have a Committee meeting, so that their Executive can make their report. They wanted to have this before the Principal came back, but I stalled it off a little as I thought that too much discussion at present might not get us very far.

2. GRADUATE STUDIES. I had a talk with Dr. Ruttan who said he thought that the Staff at Macdonald, outside of Dr. Harrison, were opposed to any sort of graduate study and would not encourage people to go in for it. A little later Professor Lochhead came in, and I had quite a talk with him. He thinks on the contrary that the Staff are quite in favour of advanced work, even though it cannot be denied that in the case of most of them the especially practical lines which their work has followed will force them to depend a good deal on our Staff here for such work.

I had a conversation with Prof. Lloyd, in whose Department of course there has been a special difficulty, owing to the appointment of Dickson with which he did not agree. His idea was that it was quite impossible to fuse the staff of corresponding departments in the School of Agriculture and in the other Faculties. The argument is more or less this: that the doctor and the engineer need the same sort of elementary Physics, but the agricultural student needs a different sort. To the student of Agriculture again Botany is a subject which in one form or another takes in nearly half his work and has an intensely practical aspect. This is not the case with the student in Arts.

I had another talk with Dr. Ruttan who has a further difficulty, which is that most of the standards in scientific subjects in the School of Agriculture are very low, so that as matters stand at present a man coming from there to get a M. Sc. would not have nearly so high a standing in fundamental scientific subjects as the McGill student aiming at his M. Sc. He suggested the possibility of agricultural students studying at Macdonald only for an M. S. A. (in Agronomy, etc.); for any other high degree (M. Sc.) they would be required to follow the ordinary requirements of the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

There is a certain amount of complication at present owing to the fact that the status of Macdonald students will not be certain until Agriculture is definitely made into a Faculty. As soon as this happens all the regulations of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research could be applied in the ordinary way and without any necessary feeling.

I had another conversation with Dr. Ruttan concerning general scientific organization within the University. He remarked that we had no place where general bacteriology was taught; that the student who wished to follow a subject must get it from Oertel's department which is primarily concerned with pathogenic bacteria, or from Starkey, and that we have plenty of room for bacteriology as a self contained subject.

July 12th, 1926.

F. E. M. Robinson, Esq.,
Richmond, Que.

My dear Mr. Robinson:-

Last week I promised to visit your farm on Wednesday or Thursday of this week. I am afraid that it will not now be possible as I am leaving Montreal on Wednesday to establish my family at Yorke Harbor, Me. for the balance of the summer. I had not intended going until the evening of Monday the 19th, but as accommodation was given me from the 15th the family thought it well to arrive there on that date. Just when I can get out to see you is now problematical, but I should say some time in September.

Mr. Glasseo will arrange for a meeting of our Agricultural Committee for next Monday or Tuesday.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

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MONTREAL
CANADA

June 25th-1926

CABLE ADDRESS
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5TH EDITION

Colonel Wilfred Bovey
McGill University,
Montreal - Que. -

Dear Wilfred:-

I have a letter this morning from the Principal's secretary advising that there will be a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Faculty of Agriculture next Wednesday at 1 o'clock.

I regret I will be in Ottawa Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, but would very much like to have a short interview with Sir Arthur any time today or Monday, up until five o'clock, if it could be arranged.

Will you telephone me if this is possible ?

Yours very truly,

Edgar C. Budge

January 6, 1925.

Colonel W.A. Grant,
Ritz Carlton Hotel,
Sherbrooke Street West.

Dear Colonel Grant:-

I am sending you herewith copy of last year's report of this University which includes a report of Macdonald College and also an announcement of Macdonald College for the coming term.

You will note in the University Report on page 16 the Principal's remarks regarding the formation of the Agricultural Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Wilfrid Bovey.

December 2, 1925.

Peter Reid, Esq.,
Chateauguay, P.Q.

Dear Mr. Reid:-

You are possibly aware that we formed last year an Advisory Agricultural Committee in connection with Macdonald College. The Committee consists altogether of gentlemen connected with the agricultural industry and is appointed by the Governors of McGill University, reporting directly to myself. It is not called upon to meet very often, but we regard it as fulfilling important functions in the University. We should be very pleased if you would become a member of this Committee and if we might look to you to attend its meetings and help us with your advice.

Yours faithfully,

PRINCIPAL.

June 19, 1925.

Fred Kay, Esq., M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Kay:-

We were very sorry indeed not to see your large contingent at Macdonald, but perhaps we may look forward to seeing them some time next year, when the place will be filled with beautiful women. This, however, will have no attraction for such sober minded people as members of Parliament. I suppose you will be through with your labours before long and that you will soon be managing to enjoy a hard earned holiday.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Wilfrid Bovey.



House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa, June 16, 1925.

Dear Wilfrid:-

I am exceedingly sorry that I was unable to pull off the trip to Macdonald last week, but a large portion of the members who had promised to come found that owing to the business of the Grain Act which I am considering in Committee, and the Crow's Nest Rates which was introduced by the Government, they found it impossible to be away on Saturday and rather than go down with half a dozen, I thought it better to postpone it altogether.

Please express to Sir Arthur and Dr. Harrison my very sincere regrets, and tell Sir Arthur that I am delighted he has so quickly recovered from his illness.

Yours sincerely,

Col. Wilfrid Bovey,
Assistant to Principal,
McGill University,
Montreal, Que.



House of Commons
Canada

OTTAWA, ONT.,
JUNE 5, 1925.

Col. Wilfrid Bovey,
McGill University,
M o n t r e a l, P.Q.

Dear Col. Bovey:

In connection with the proposed visit to Macdonald College of Members of Parliament; in accordance with the suggestion of Dr. Harrison they will come down on the 13th. of June to spend the day at the College.

If you can see your way clear to provide some kind of a luncheon I think it would be very acceptable. I have not been able to definitely ascertain how many will go down, but I think you might expect between fifty or seventy-five. I will be able to give you more definite figures next week.

Will you be good enough to inform Dr. Harrison of our proposed visit ?

Yours sincerely,

W. J. Kay
W. J. Kay

WFK/F.

Dear Sir Arthur Currie--

Thinking over our interview, I realize that while I probably gave you some very interesting views on agriculture, I rather sidestepped your practical query as to what Macdonald College could do to serve the farmer. That is unfortunate, as I have before now attempted in detail to solve that special problem--not necessarily for Macdonald College, but in general discussion of the situation of agriculture.

Therefore, I offer the suggestion that the College be used, this winter and spring, as the centre for a series of roundtable discussions between farmers, economists and the heads of our great banks and railways. I am sure that the latter group would gladly co-operate, either in person or by deputy. For the economists, several who claim that title--such men as my friend A.R. McMaster,--have agreed that much good might come, from such meetings. For the farmers, I can guarantee to conscript a few real working farmers and to chaperone them in such fashion that they would talk freely.

The result could be only of benefit to all the interests concerned, and would be of the greatest value as an advertisement of the College. The special matter of its service to the farmer would arise constantly in the discussions.

If this idea strikes you as useful, I should recommend that it be put into effect as soon as possible, as this is, for Quebec farmers, the only really slack season.

Coldbrook Farm,
Sweetsburg, Que.,
January 23rd, 1925

Yours very truly,

P. C. Armstrong

MACDONALD COLLEGE

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may from time to time authorize or direct; to supervise all employees and subordinate staff in the same manner as is done by the Bursar of the University; to supervise all buildings and their lighting and heating; to administer the kitchen and meals; to inspect all lands, buildings and other property of the College and upon consultation with the Principal of the College to report promptly to the Governors all necessary improvements, repairs and expenditures thereon, and to superintend under their direction the execution of such repairs and expenditures; to present to the Board of Governors through the Bursar of the University all usual and necessary statements and reports exhibiting and setting out all revenues, receipts and disbursements of the college and all matters affecting its finances and property; and generally to perform the like duties and powers in relation to the College as are ordinarily performed by the Bursar of the University in relation to the University as a whole as well as all other additional duties and powers which may be specially assigned to or conferred upon him from time to time by the Board of Governors.

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There shall be a standing executive committee of the College to be known as "The Executive Committee of Macdonald College." The members of the Committee shall be the Principal of the University and the respective Heads of the Schools. The Committee shall, subject to the Faculty of the College, be responsible for the arrangement and co-ordination of:

(a) all academic matters affecting more than one of its constituent schools, including matters of morals and discipline, (b) all short courses and extension courses and all other college courses of study not leading to a University degree and (c) all matters of academic interest not already covered by these statutes or by the general statutes, rules and regulations of the University. Meetings of the Committee may be convoked at any time by the call of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and three members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. No decision of the Committee involving any alteration in curriculum shall have effect until approved by the Faculty.

15. Nothing contained in this chapter shall be read so as to limit in any way the power of the Board of Governors to appoint, create and constitute any further committees or offices of management as they may deem advisable from time to time for the more orderly and efficient administration of the College and its affairs.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

T. B. MACAULAY
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL.

MONTREAL
May
nineteenth
1925.

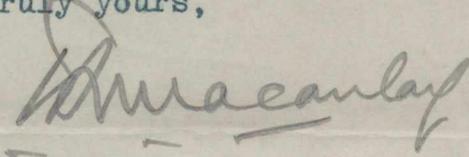
Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal, McGill University,
City.

Dear Sir Arthur :-

I enclose herewith a letter which speaks for itself. As I cannot be with you, I should be greatly pleased if you could very kindly have it read.

In your letter calling the meeting you speak of the appointment of a Committee, which would report direct to the Principal. This is rather vague, in that you do not say whether you mean the Principal of Macdonald or the Principal of McGill University. It will make a mighty difference.

Very truly yours,



Letter enclosed.

TBM/MSW.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

OFFICE OF
THE PRESIDENT

MONTREAL 20th May, 1925.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal, McGill University,
City.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I am very sorry to have to say that on account of my son's wedding I must leave for St. John on the evening of the 25th, so that it will be impossible for me to attend the meetings of the Committee you have invited to consider the affairs of Macdonald College. I regret this the more deeply because I feel a keen interest in that institution, and would like to see it have the greatest influence and the widest field of usefulness possible.

It is a fact that most, perhaps all, the agricultural colleges of the continent are suffering at present from a dearth of students. In a recent issue of "The Country Gentleman" (of which I send you a copy) it is pointed out that while the numbers of students attending other faculties have of recent years increased very greatly, the numbers in the agricultural departments have on the contrary decreased, and the article goes on to ask what is wrong with the agricultural colleges. The condition is of course in part due to the depressed condition of agriculture, but this can hardly be the sole reason, for even in California, which is the home of the most highly developed horticulture and agriculture of the United States, and where the fruit-growers are a high class of men in good circumstances, the condition is at least as bad as elsewhere. At the University of

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OF CANADA

Sir Arthur Currie.

California the total number of students has grown from 5,614 in 1914 to 15,580 at the time of the last returns, but the students in the Agricultural Department have dropped from 597 to 515. In Ohio the agricultural students dropped from 795 to 530, and in Illinois from 1,046 to 637.

The problem which you have to face is one that may be said to be common to all Agricultural Colleges, but I cannot help thinking that in the case of Macdonald the problem is even more acute than elsewhere. Our circumstances in this province are unusual. The English-speaking farming population of Quebec, and of Eastern Ontario, for whose benefit it may be said that Macdonald College was primarily established, is distinctly limited. Your field therefore is relatively small, when compared with the farming population of Ontario, or of any of the great States of the American Union. A programme of studies which might possibly be desirable under other circumstances, might be for Macdonald very unsuitable in view of that limited population.

I remember being told at the time Sir William Macdonald founded the Ste. Annes College, that his object was to assist the English-speaking farmers of the Province of Quebec. Your problem, therefore, would seem to be, how to direct the activities of Macdonald College so as to help that farming population to the greatest extent. In other words, what can Macdonald College do in the way of training our young farmers and farmers' sons, so that they be more efficient in their farm work, produce larger and better crops, get more profit from their farm animals, be better business men, obtain the highest prices for what they have to sell, and, in short, be better farmers

Sir Arthur Currie.

and earn larger incomes. I think all practical farmers will agree with me, that, in the main, any so-called aid is of little value, unless it actually results in putting more dollars into the pockets of the farmers, for that is the kind of help they need and need badly.

This may seem to be a very commercial and mercenary view, but personally I am convinced that the principal reason for the decline in the number of students in American Agricultural Colleges is the fact that in too many cases the curriculums have not been such as to convince farmers that the practical results would justify the expense and time required by a course of several years at an Agricultural College. I think I am right in saying that the ordinary farmer has an idea that though some of the classes at such a College would be helpful, too many of them would be so technical and so scientific as to be required chiefly by persons who wish to become professors or teachers, while on the other hand the general effect of the college course would be to promote a distaste for manual work, and consequently for farm life, with a preference for brain or clerical work and city life.

There cannot of course be the slightest objection to your attempting to build up at Macdonald an Agricultural department of a very high technical character, which can compete with such places as Cornell, Ames and Guelph, if you can secure sufficient students to make it worth while, and if your funds permit the expenditures. I think, however, that your real service to the farming community must be measured

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Sir Arthur Currie.

by the help you give to farmers and to farmers' sons who remain on the farms, rather than to people who are taken away from the farms and put into scholastic or city life.

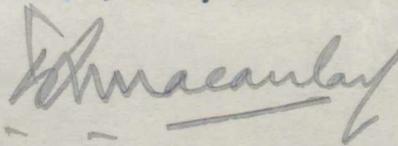
I would, however, take this opportunity of expressing my deep appreciation of the service which has been rendered to the farming community by your Short Courses for farmers, and by your extension work. These have brought home to farmers much agricultural information and have been a great stimulus. This department of your work is certainly rendering splendid service, and has my enthusiastic endorsement.

It is far easier to set forth the difficulties that confront Macdonald and other Agricultural Colleges, than it is to supply a remedy. We are dealing with a problem that is puzzling the best agricultural authorities of the United States, and it would be very presumptuous of me to suggest any remedy offhand. All I have done is to try to set forth in a kindly, sympathetic and appreciative manner, the ideals and aims which should, I think, dominate the policy of the College, and I can only hope that the practical men whom you have so wisely called in for consultation may be able to give some suggestions that will increase the efficiency and influence of the College. I very deeply regret my inability to be with you, for I should much appreciate the privilege of hearing the views of those who will be present. If I were with you I would speak along the same lines as are set forth in this letter, and I will be very glad indeed if you

Sir Arthur Currie.

will do me the kindness of having this read at one of your meetings
as a substitute for the talk which I am unfortunately unable to give
in person.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Macaulay", with a horizontal line underneath the name.

TBM/MSW.

Magazine under separate cover.

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4. The College shall be composed of the Faculty of Agriculture, the School for Teachers, and the School of Household Science, and the Deans of other Heads of ^{the Faculty and} ~~these~~ Schools shall be responsible for their ^{Faculty and} care, direction and management of their respective Schools.
5. The Faculty of Agriculture shall be a Faculty of the University with its own Dean and all statutes and regulations of the University in relation to the composition, organization and government of Faculties generally shall apply in the case of this Faculty, except as hereinafter otherwise provided.

6. All courses of study and all matters in relation to the teaching and training of students in The School for Teachers shall be subject at all times to the School Law of the Province and to the provisions of the Agreement between His Majesty the King in right of the Province of Quebec and The Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning, dated the Twenty-fifth (25th) day of February, A.D. 1907, and ratified by Chapter Twenty-six (26) of the Statutes of the Province for that year, or any other acts or agreements amending or replacing the same.

7. All courses of study in the College leading to a University degree shall be subject to the approval of the Corporation of McGill University and all examinations qualifying for a degree in these subjects shall be under the control of the University.

8. There shall be a Bursar for Macdonald College to be appointed by the Board of Governors and he shall have the following powers and duties: To keep accurate books of account of all revenues, receipts and expenditures of the College with all requisite vouchers; to collect and account for all moneys, rates and revenues of the College, except those derived from outside investments of the College funds and endowments, and to lodge the same to the credit of "The Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning, Trustees of Macdonald College", in such chartered bank as may be designated by the Governors; to pay by his cheque all outstanding claims and salaries payable from College funds, said cheques to be countersigned or signed in such manner and form and subject to such orders as the said Governors may from time to time authorize or direct; to supervise, in consultation with the head of the Faculty or School concerned (a) all employees and subordinate staff, (b) all buildings and their lighting and heating, (c) the kitchen and meals; to inspect all lands, buildings and other property of the College and upon consultation with the Head of the Faculty or School concerned; to report promptly to the Governors all necessary improvements, repairs and expenditures thereon, and to superintend

under their direction and with the approval of the Head of the School or Faculty concerned, the execution of such repairs and expenditures; to present to the Board of Governors through the Bursar of the University all usual and necessary statements and reports exhibiting and setting out all revenues, receipts and disbursements of the college and all matters affecting its finances and property; and generally to perform the like duties and powers in relation to the College as are ordinarily performed by the Bursar of the University in relation to the University as a whole as well as all other additional duties and powers which may be specially assigned to or conferred upon him from time to time by the Board of Governors.

9. There shall be a standing executive committee of the College to be known as "The Executive Committee of Macdonald College." The members of the Committee shall be the Principal of the University and the respective Heads of the Faculty and Schools. The Committee shall be responsible for the arrangement and co-ordination of all academic matters affecting more than one of its constituent Faculty and Schools, including matters of morals and discipline. Meetings of the Committee may be convened at any time by the call of any member.

10. Nothing contained in this chapter shall be read so as to limit in any way the power of the Board of Governors to appoint, create and constitute any further committees or offices of management as they may deem advisable from time to time for the more orderly and efficient administration of the College and its affairs.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

\ Gilbert McMillan

Huntingdon, P.Q.

\ R.R. Ness

Howick, P.Q.

\ Fred Kay, M.P.

Philipsburg, P.Q.
House of Commons, Ottawa.

\ F.E.M. Robinson

Richmond, P.Q.

\ Edgar Budge

Budge Carbon Paper Mfg. Co.,
21 St. Antoine St.

\ P.C. Armstrong

Sweetsburg, P.Q.
The Land Publishing Co., Cowansville,
P.Q.

David Black

Lachute, P.Q.

D.A. McPhee

Vankleek Hill, Ont.

F.G. Gale

Waterville, P.Q.

\ T.B. Macaulay

Sun Life Assurance Co.

Lt. Col. W.A. Grant

June 15th, 1925.

F.E.M. Robinson, Esq.,
Richmond, Que.

Dear Mr. Robinson:-

Your letter addressed to
Sir Arthur was received while he was in hospital
where he underwent an operation.

He asked me to tell you that
he was pleased that your report had been prepared
and as soon as he was able to do so would make a
definite appointment to see your Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Wilfrid Bovey.

"The Most Beautiful Dairy Cow in America"



J. LEE ALEXANDER

F. E. M. ROBINSON

RICHMOND JERSEYS INC.

TELEPHONES

CREAMERY & OFFICE 213
J. LEE ALEXANDER 78 R. 21
F. E. M. ROBINSON 195

RICHMOND, QUE.

June 10 1925.

LUCINDA'S PRINCESS
17160 247114A
14803 P.S.H.C.I.

Sir Arthur W. Currie.
Principal. McGill University.
Montreal.

Sir:-

Your advisory Committee on Agriculture met after the field day spent at Macdonald College and organised itself. The writer was appointed Chairman.

We have prepared a preliminary series of recommendations and in accordance with the terms under which the Committee was appointed we wish to present them to you personally and to explain and justify them.

The Committee finds itself unanimous and at your pleasure a delegation of three members will wait on you.

Respectfully yours

F. E. M. Robinson

Chairman Advisory Committee on Agriculture

Bovary.

*Acknowledged
saying when I return to office
will make a statement*

May 6, 1925.

Dr. F. C. Harrison,
Principal, Macdonald College,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Dear Dr. Harrison:-

I thank you very much for your letter suggesting further names for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture. I am asking Messers David Black and D. A. McPhee to serve on this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

5th May, 1925.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal, McGill University,
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I learn from various sources that Gilbert McMillan, of
Huntingdon, is selling off his stock this week, and that he is in a
bad state of health.

Robinson's initials are "F. E. M.", Richmond Jerseys
Inc., Richmond.

I am suggesting some other names:-

Robert Ness and Gilbert McMillan are practically from
the same section. Perhaps it might be advisable to have a wider
distribution. David Black, of Lachute, is a well-known farmer, who
has taken a good deal of interest in the milk question in Montreal.

Representing the fruit district of the province are:-

Chas. P. Byers, of Abbotsford, Que., - a brother of Dr. Byers,
the oculist, and

Peter Reid, of Châteauguay, Secretary of the Horticulture
Society.

W. E. Ashton, one of our graduates, field representative
of the Canadian Jersey Cattle Club, Waterloo, Que.,
would make an excellent representative, and knows the
province well.

Jas. Winter, of Ormstown, Que., a well-known farmer in that
district; also has a son at the college.

Sir Arthur W. Currie.

5th May, 1925.

- 2 -

Two other names are:-

G. F. Curtis, of Stanstead, and

F. G. Gale, of Waterville,

the latter having quite a large farm - some 150 cows.

With reference to a representative from eastern Ontario, there is an agricultural school at Kemptville, and they are jealous of any of our incursions into the Ottawa Valley. We have never attempted to put on a vigorous campaign in this locality owing to the presence of the school at Kemptville. I hesitate whether or not it would be advisable to take a man from this district, but suggest the name of D. A. McPhee of Vankleek Hill, Ont. Jones, of Maitland is also fairly well known.

Faithfully yours,

F. C. Harrison
Principal.

L.

R. R. Ness.

J. Earle Ness. *B.A.*

R. Bruce Ness. *B.A.*

Douglas A. Ness.

A. Mitchell Ness.

Burnside Blossom Andrietta 74206

Burnside Farm

Terrace Bank Farm

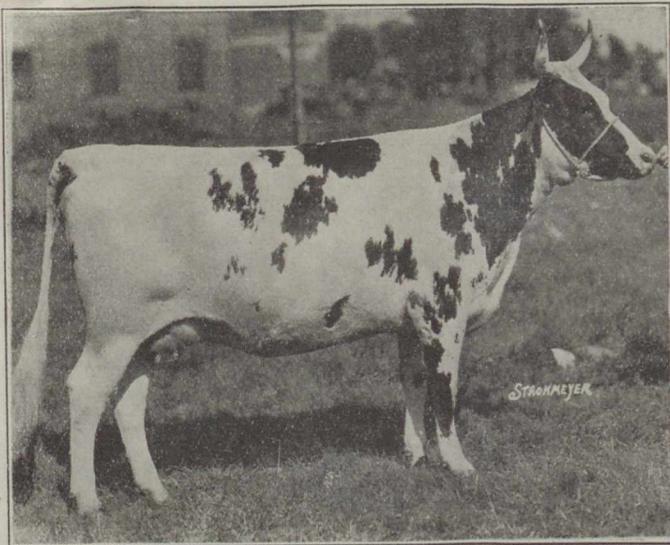
R. R. Ness & Sons, Proprietors

We Breed and Import
the best in
Ayrshires and Clydesdales

Railroad Station—Howick Jct.

Post Office—Howick

Telephone 605-1



Record 10555 lbs. Milk 496 lbs. Fat.

Howick, Que., *May 9th* 192*5*

Sir A. W. Currie.

Dear Sir

*Yours to hand regarding
acting on an Agricultural Committee
in connection with the good Institution
McDonald College.*

*It will be a pleasure
for me to be allowed if it is within my
power to be of more useful service to the
College than in the past. I would be pleased
if you could send me at an early date
your proposed agenda. & details as stated
I will make arrangements for dates mentioned*

Trusting to be of service to you &

Thanking you

I am yours sincerely

R. R. Ness

British Empire's Highest Producing Jersey Herd



GRAYBURN FARMS

F. G. GALE, Owner

WATERVILLE, QUEBEC
CANADA

May
Twenty-Third,
1925.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G. C. M. G., K. C. B.,
The Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
McGill University,
Montreal, Que.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I trust you will be good enough to excuse me for not answering your letter of the 9th inst. before. I have been away from home a good deal. Still your letter and the matter it refers to should have received attention before this for the agricultural situation is not in the most satisfactory condition and it is a difficult situation to reach. I will motor in to Montreal and endeavour to attend the meeting of the 26th inst., possibly also that of the 27th inst. I do not expect to attend the banquet.

I remain

Sincerely yours,

F. G. Gale
Thank you for invitation to banquet

HIGH PRODUCTION

Professor Oscar Erf, Professor of Dairying in Ohio State University and a nation wide authority on matters pertaining to dairying, in addressing the American Jersey Cattle Club in June, 1923 in Kansas City, said in part:—

“High production is fundamental for the development of a breed. It is through the Register of Merit that the best animals can be selected for the foundation of our herds, for high production of our herds, for high production requires that all organs harmoniously correlate and efficiently function.

“The greatest thing that the Jersey people ever did was to introduce the Register of Merit, because it is the salvation of the business, and more and more you people ought to pay more attention to that particular line of work because breeding, reproduction, feeding all depend upon that particular part. (applause).

“Breeding for high production in the future we must depend upon the animals who are new making the high records, since this characteristic must be propagated from one generation to another.”

If we talked ad infinitum we couldn't put the attitude of Grayburn Farms toward the Jersey situation any plainer than this excerpt from Professor Erf's speech.

Grayburn Farms is really just starting as it was not until March, 1923 that we started more than twice a day milking in earnest. We believe the following shows that “we practise what we preach”:—

During the calendar year of 1923 we milked an average of 45.13 cows. This is the whole herd including everything from yearlings to mature cows and both cows with perfect and cows with imperfect udders. These cows produced during 1923, 307,433.4 lbs. of milk, an average of 6,812.17 lbs. per cow for the year. We received in cash for the products of these cows \$7,764.83, an average of \$172.05 per cow for the year. The product was sold as cream in Massachusetts. Whole milk supplied to men as wages, whole milk fed to calves and all the skim milk are not included in these figures.

We had 18 cows on R.O.P. test in December, 1923. They produced 955.76 lbs. of butter fat or an average of 53.10 lbs. of fat, 62.47 lbs. of butter—85% fat—per cow. In January, 1924 we ran 20 cows on R.O.P. test. They produced 1033.42 lbs. of fat, an average of 51.67 lbs. of fat, 60.96 lbs. of butter—85% fat—per cow. A fourteen year old cow finished test in December, 1923 with 516 lbs. of fat, 607.06 lbs. of butter—85% fat. A junior two-year-old finished in January, 1924 with 523 lbs. of fat, 615.29 lbs. of fat butter—85% fat. A yearling finished in March, 1924 with 485 lbs. of fat, 570.59 lbs. of butter, 85% fat. A mature cow finished in March, 1924 with 884 lbs. of fat, 1040 lbs. of butter—85% fat. These are our last four records to be completed and all these cows look like more the next time. Other cows now on test promise higher records than the above.

Write us about your next herd bull. Better still pay us a visit in any case.

May 9, 1925.

F.G. Gale, Esq.,
Waterville, P.Q.

Dear Mr. Gale:-

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain directions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

We have had, in connection with our School of Commerce, an advisory committee of prominent business men, and we have found it of the greatest value in connection with our course. We are now proposing to establish a similar committee of the University to be known as the Advisory Committee on Agriculture and to report directly to the Principal.

We would be very glad if you would consent to act as a member of this committee and to attend a meeting of Macdonald College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue on May 26th and 27th next. The Committee would meet formally at 2.30 p.m. on May 26th in the Office at Macdonald College.

May I assure you that in asking you to undertake this work that your position would be by no means a nominal one, but that the University would receive the recommendations of the Committee with the greatest gratitude and would give the most serious attention to any suggestions.

Should you find it possible to act on this Committee, I will send you any information at present available regarding the College and a suggested agenda, together with details regarding the arrangements for meeting you and entertaining you while in Montreal and Ste. Anne de Bellevue. I hope that in any case

F.G. Gale, Esq.

you will be our guests at dinner at the Mount Royal Hotel on May 26th and that we may put you up there. Your expenses will, of course, be met.

I know that we are asking a good deal of busy men, but but I think you may be assured that you will be doing a service of real value, not only to the University, but to the general progress of rural districts which Sir William Macdonald was so anxious to foster, and that your sacrifice will be well repaid.

Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

Lachute Que May 12th 1925

The Principal & Vice-Chancellor
McGill University
Montreal

Right-Hon. Sir.

It gives me much pleasure to accept your invitation to act on the Advisory Committee on Agriculture; which you intend to establish at MacDonald College. I will keep those dates open to attend the meetings. I will be pleased to have any information of the nature of the work, that I may give it some study before the meetings.

Yours Faithfully,

David Black

May 20, 1925.

Gilbert McMillan, Esq.,
Huntingdon, P.Q.

Dear Mr. McMillan:-

I am very glad to know that you are willing to give some of your time to helping us at Macdonald College and that we may expect to see you on May 26th.

I would suggest that the afternoon of that day might very well be devoted by the Committee to hearing from Dr. Harrison and his colleagues a detailed statement of the work which is now being carried on and of the existing facilities. I think this would probably occupy the whole of the first afternoon and that we have quite enough material for a very interesting conference in the evening.

The programme for the next day should, I feel, be left more or less open, although it might be well worth while to make a detailed examination of some of the departments and possibly spend the afternoon in gathering together our results.

I am enclosing herewith the latest announcement of Macdonald College together with the Annual Report of the University, in which you will find the Report of Macdonald College on Page 60-108. These will give you a certain amount of preliminary information.

Yours faithfully,

May 2, 1925.

Gilbert McMillan, Esq.,
Huntingdon, P.C.

Dear Mr. McMillan:-

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain directions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

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Gilbert McMillan, Esq.

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I know that we are asking a good deal of busy men, but I think you may be assured that you will be doing a service of real value, not only to the University, but to the general progress of rural districts, which Sir William Macdonald was so anxious to foster, and that your sacrifices will be well repaid.

Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

May 4, 1925.

R.R. Ness, Esq.,

Howick, P.Q.

Dear Mr. Ness:-

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain directions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

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R.R. Ness, Esq.

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Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

May 4, 1925.

Fred Kay, Esq., M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Kay:-

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain disquisitions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

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May I assure you that in asking you to undertake this work that your position would be by no means a nominal one, but that the University would receive the recommendations of the Committee with the greatest gratitude and would give the most serious attention to any suggestions.

Fred Kay, Esq.

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I know that we are asking a good deal of busy men, but I think you may be assured that you will be doing a service of real value, not only to the University, but to the general progress of rural districts, which Sir William Macdonald was so anxious to foster, and that your sacrifices will be well repaid.

Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

May 4, 1925.

Evan Robinson, Esq.,
North Melbourne,
P.O.

Dear Mr. Robinson:-

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain directions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

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May I assure you that in asking you to undertake this work that your position would be by no means a nominal one, but that the University would receive the recommendations of the Committee with the greatest gratitude and would give the most serious attention to any suggestions.

Evan Robinson, Esq.

Should you find it possible to act on this Committee, I will send you any information at present available regarding the College and a suggested agenda, together with details regarding the arrangements for meeting you and entertaining you while in Montreal and Ste. Anne de Bellevue. I hope that in any case you will be our guests at dinner at the Mount Royal Hotel on May 26th and that we may put you up there. Your expenses will, of course, be met.

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Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

May 4, 1925.

Edgar Budge, Esq.,
C/O Budge Carbon Paper Mfg. Co.,
21 St. Antoine Street.

Dear Mr. Budge:-

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain directions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

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May I assure you that in asking you to undertake this work that your position would be by no means a nominal one, but that the University would receive the recommendations of the Committee with the greatest gratitude and would give the most serious attention to any suggestions.

Edgar Budge, Esq.

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Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

May 4, 1925.

T.B. Macaulay, Esq.,

President, Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada,
Metcalf Street.

Dear Mr. Macaulay:—

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain directions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

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T.B. Macaulay, Esq.

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I know that we are asking a good deal of busy men, but I think you may be assured that you will be doing a service of real value, not only to the University, but to the general progress of rural districts, which Sir William Macdonald was so anxious to foster, and that your sacrifices will be well repaid.

Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

May 4, 1925.

P.C. Armstrong, Esq.,
Sweetsburg,
P.Q.

Dear Mr. Armstrong:-

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain directions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

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P.C. Armstrong, Esq.

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Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

May 11th, 1925.

Dr. F. C. Harrison,
Principal, Macdonald College,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.

Dear Dr. Harrison:-

I find a great deal of interest has developed regarding our conference to be held on the 26th and 27th of this month. How would it be if we carried on somewhat on the following lines:

We assemble on the afternoon of the 26th and I do not think much time need be spent in visiting the different Departments of the College, in as much as most of the Committee are already very well acquainted with the Departments at Macdonald. I think we must go into conference that first afternoon. I would very briefly outline the reasons why I asked the Committee to meet and you could follow with a statement of just what had been done at Macdonald College with regard to our B.S.A. course, our yearly course, our short course and our School of Household Science. It will not be necessary to dwell very long on the School for Teachers, although at some time I intend to let the Committee know the handicap we have to overcome in that school.

I think that your remarks should include a statement of the revenue of Macdonald College and how it is apportioned. In fact some of the Committee have asked to be furnished with such a statement before the conference meets. Perhaps it would be satisfactory to furnish them a statement during the first afternoon, or is there any reason why such a statement should not

Dr. F. C. Harrison

- 2 -

be furnished them now?

After your outline should come, I think, a statement from the heads of the principal departments stating not only just what they are doing but what they would like to do if funds were available. Regarding this programme of development I would like them to be definite and positive.

What I have outlined above should take up the whole of the afternoon. After the dinner that night we should have a very interesting round-table conference.

For the next day I think we should divide our conference members into groups, each group to visit a certain department. After lunch at Macdonald College we should come together for our final conference and decision as to what assistance the Committee can render and what Macdonald College should try to do.

Please let me know if this outline commends itself to you.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

May 9th, 1925.

Gilbert McMillan, Esq.,
Springburn Farm,
Huntingdon, Que.

Dear Mr. McMillan:-

Thank you very much for your
letter of May 7th re Advisory Committee on
Agriculture.

If you cannot attend the meeting
on the 26th I hope you will find it possible to be
with us on the 27th.

Thanking you for your interest,
I am,

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



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Huntingdon, Que.,

May 7th

1925

Dr A. W. Currie R. C. B.
Montreal, Que

My Dear Sir:- I am in receipt of your
favours of May 2nd & beg to thank you
for your invitation to serve on an Advisory
Committee in connection with McDonald
College. If you feel that my experience
can be of any service to you in connection
with this work, I will gladly render what
service I can. I am not quite sure at
the moment that I can join you on May
26th as I am having a sale of Registered
cattle here on the 22nd with Sunday & a
holiday intervening. I may not be able
to have all the shipping attended to
by the 26th. I will however do what I
can to attend. Yours very truly
Gilbert McMillan

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

T. B. MACAULAY
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

MONTREAL
May
seventh
1925.

P.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G.,
Principal & Vice Chancellor,
McGill University,
CITY.

My dear Sir Arthur :-

I have your favour of the 4th, and can only say that I am honoured by the invitation, and will be very pleased to act on the Committee. It is possible that I will be able to be present at the meetings on the afternoon of the 26th, though I much doubt it, but certainly cannot be there on the 27th, as that, unfortunately, is the exact day on which my son is to be married in St. John, N. B. (to the daughter of Sir Douglas Hazen).

Very truly yours,

TBM/MSW.

T. B. Macaulay

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RICHMOND, QUE.

May 6 1925.

Sir Arthur W. Currie.
Principal, McGill University.
Montreal.

Dear Sir. Arthur:-

I have just received your letter of the 4th inst and wish to thank you for it. As you may remember the question of the relationship of Macdonald College to Quebec agriculture has been much on my mind and I therefor, in spite of chronic shortage of time feel constrained to accept your invitation to act on this committee.

I expect to be in Montreal on Thursday evening on my way to Ottawa and if possible would like to see you for a few minutes in regard to these matters before the first meeting of the committee. I shall find out from Col. Bovey by telephone as to this.

Faithfully yours

F. E. M. Robinson.



House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa, May 6, 1925.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I am in receipt of your letter of May 4th, inviting me to become a member of an Advisory Committee on Agriculture, in connection with Macdonald College.

I am greatly interested in the work which Sir William Macdonald had in mind when he founded the college, and if you think that I can be of any assistance, I will be glad to act as a member of the Committee, and I think that I will be able to get away on the 26th and 27th of May.

Thanking you for your letter,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
McGill University,
Montreal, Que.

THE LAND
PUBLISHING CO.

Cowansville, Que. May 6, 1925

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.
McGill University,
Montreal, Quebec.

Dear Sir Arthur Currie:

I have your kind letter of May 4th inviting me to join
your Advisory Committee on Agriculture for Macdonald College.

I shall be indeed glad to do so.

I shall be at Macdonald College at 2.30 P.M., on May 26th.

Sincerely yours,

P.C. Armstrong

P. C. Armstrong

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MONTREAL
CANADA

May
Fifth
1925

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5TH EDITION

Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.
Principal & Vice-Chancellor,
McGill University,
MONTREAL.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 4th inst. has reached me and I am particularly interested in your suggestion regarding Macdonald College.

It will be a pleasure for me to assist in any way I can on this suggested Committee and I have made a note of the dates May 26th and 27th upon which the first meeting will be held.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edgar C. Budge".

ECB/GH

May 6, 1925.

D. A. McPhee, Esq.,
Vanleek Hill, Ont.

Dear Mr. McPhee:-

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain directions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

We have had, in connection with our School of Commerce, an advisory committee, of prominent business men, and we have found it of the greatest value in connection with our course. We are now proposing to establish a similar committee of the University, to be known as the Advisory Committee on Agriculture and to report directly to the Principal.

We would be very glad if you would consent to act as a member of this committee and to attend a meeting at Macdonald College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, on May 26th and 27th next. The Committee would meet formally at 2.30 p.m. on May 26th in the Office at Macdonald College.

May I assure you that in asking you to undertake this work that your position would be by no means a nominal one, but that the University would receive the recommendations of the Committee with the greatest gratitude and would give the most serious attention to any suggestions.

B. A. McPhee, Esq.

Should you find it possible to act on this Committee, I will send you any information at present available regarding the College and a suggested agenda, together with details regarding the arrangements for meeting you and entertaining you while in Montreal and Ste. Anne de Bellevue. I hope that in any case you will be our guests at dinner at the Mount Royal Hotel on May 26th and that we may put you up there. Your expenses will, of course, be met.

I know that we are asking a good deal of busy men, but I think you may be assured that you will be doing a service of real value, not only to the University, but to the general progress of rural districts, which Sir William Macdonald was so anxious to foster, and that your sacrifices will be well repaid.

Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

May 6, 1925.

David Black, Esq.,
Lachute, P.Q.

Dear Mr. Black:-

For some time past we have been giving very serious consideration to the question of increasing the value of Macdonald College for the farming interests of the province. There are certain directions in which we think that an improvement could be made, yet we have naturally hesitated before taking steps which we were not assured would bring us to the desired object.

We have had, in connection with our School of Commerce, an advisory committee of prominent business men, and we have found it of the greatest value in connection with our course. We are now proposing to establish a similar committee of the University, to be known as the Advisory Committee on Agriculture and to report directly to the Principal.

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David Black, Esq.

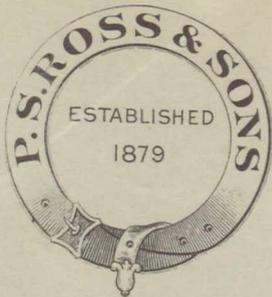
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Speaking for the Governors and myself I would make an urgent and personal appeal to you to help us out by becoming a member of this Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



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142 NOTRE DAME STREET, WEST

MONTREAL 9th. July, 1924.

Sir Arthur Currie, GCMG.,
McGill University,
MONTREAL.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I am passing on to you for your information letters received from Mr. T.B. Macaulay dated 28th May and 14th June. I have already replied to Mr. Macaulay, taking up one or two points with him, and you will appreciate that he has somewhat different viewpoint of the value of Macdonald College. It is quite possible there is still great necessity for establishing an Agricultural School, but it hardly seems to come within the limits of what Sir William Macdonald intended the College to be. However, if anything can be done to extend the usefulness of Macdonald College I think we should give it careful consideration, and it might be that in working out such a problem Mr. Macaulay might be of great use.

With kind regards,
Yours very sincerely,

John W. Ross

Encl.

JWR/A.

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SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

T. B. MACAULAY
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

MONTREAL

May
twenty-eighth
1924.

P.

John W. Ross, Esq.,
Messrs. P. S. Ross & Sons,
#142 Notre Dame St. W.,
City.

Confidential

My dear John :-

I am afraid that you will think I am presuming, and perhaps unduly meddlesome, but I really think I should pass on to you a thought which has long been in my mind, and to which I attach steadily increasing importance.

That thought is that it would be most highly desirable that you and some of the other Governors of McGill, who are specially interested in Macdonald College, should run down and look carefully over the Agricultural Department of the Mount Hermon Schools established by Mr. Moodie, near Northfield, Mass. The object of Sir William Macdonald in establishing the Schools at Ste. Annes was to help the English-speaking farming community of Quebec and Eastern Ontario. It is hardly necessary to ask whether the work as at present carried on is fulfilling Sir William's hopes and intentions. How many farmers' sons of the province are agricultural students at the College? How many of these will return to their fathers' farms and continue their agricultural pursuits?

The more I think over the matter, the more convinced am I that while there is little need of an Agricultural University at Ste. Annes, there would be a tremendous field of usefulness for an Agri-

cultural

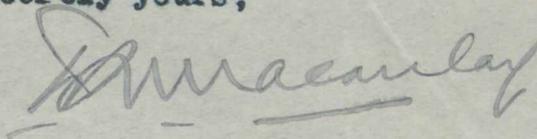
J. W. R.

- 2 -

Agricultural High School, if I may so term it, especially if arrangements were made that would encourage, if not actually require, the students in attendance to work as at Mount Hermon for at least two hours per day, and thus lessen the expenses of the School, and partly pay their own fees. Instead of a few individuals coming to the Schools, you should have scores.

Just the other day I could not help making the remark that if Macdonald were run along something like the Mount Hermon lines, and had such a man as Professor Elder at its head, it would indeed be a power in the land. You of course understand that in order to make a real success of such a movement, you require not merely to initiate the system, but to supply a capable, enthusiastic, magnetic leader, who can make that system a success.

Sincerely yours,



TBM/MSW.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

T. B. MACAULAY
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

P.

MONTREAL
June
fourteenth
1924.

John W. Ross, Esq.,
City.

My dear John:-

Since I last wrote, I have had a long talk with Prof. Elder, Head of the Agriculture Section of the Moodie Schools, Mount Hermon. I have also had the privilege of going over the School properties with him.

I will at once admit that on going into the matter more in detail, and making special enquiries, which I had not previously done, I find that the ideals and objects of Mount Hermon are not exactly what I had supposed, and that while many things can be learned from its agricultural department, that department as a whole could not be taken as your model. I did however learn a good deal, and had my own ideas further clarified on various points.

One of the most vital of these points is the standard set for admission to Macdonald College. That I understand is the same as for matriculation at McGill. Have you ever stopped to think what that means? How many farmers' sons can come up to that standard? Why should it be considered necessary that a young farmer should pass such a high standard of examination? Of what value are Latin and Algebra, for example, to a practical farmer? Is it not a fact that by your entrance examination you

J. W. R.

deliberately exclude nearly the entire farming population, and limit your students (apart from those who attend the various Short Courses) to young fellows who desire to become teachers or specialists? When you set a fence around the College so high that 99.9 per cent of farmers and farmers' sons cannot climb it, and have no desire to climb it, is it any wonder that you succeed in keeping them out? If you succeed in persuading a farmer to send his son to the College, do you not almost certainly divert his attention from actual farming to scholastic or clerical work and ensure that he will not return to his father's farm? Have you helped or injured that farmer? Not long ago a man in the West Indies wrote to me that he wished his son to take up farming in Canada but wished him to receive a good practical agricultural education before beginning; would I recommend some school? What reply would you make to such a question? What could I say? Could I recommend Macdonald? Emphatically not; Education there would simply dissatisfy him with farm life. I could make no recommendation.

I may be told, however, that it is necessary to keep the admission standard at that height in order to agree with the entrance examinations to other departments of the University, and to ensure that those who get a McGill degree in any department shall have a good general education. This is probably sound while you are working along your present lines. In my judgment, however, there is little need in this section of Canada for agricultural training of the advanced and highly scientific kind

J. W. R.

which would be expected from the agricultural department of a University.

I have frequently made the remark that we have little need of an Agricultural University here, but enormous need of what I may term an Agricultural High School. To require a high entrance examination of those who are going to specialize in Technical Agriculture, Plant Pathology, etc., etc., and who are to receive degrees of the University, may be all very well, but if your object is really to help the farming community, that high entrance examination is simply fatal, and is an effectual barrier to your even beginning to do the work which I understand Sir William Macdonald had in view.

It may be said that there should be two departments, one with a long term course and university standards, and another with a short course for practical farmers. I am not here referring to courses covering but a few weeks. Personally I have the utmost doubt of the possibility of carrying on two such lines concurrently with success in the same institution. There would be an immediate cleavage among the students. One group would set itself up as superior to the other, and the other group would develop a combination of jealousy, antagonism, and a numbing sense of inferiority. For the greater success of any higher school, it is necessary to have a pronounced and enthusiastic school spirit, and I do not think you could develop this with two such classes of students. I do not wish to speak at all dogmatically, for I do not know enough to justify me in doing so,

J. W. R.

but I am inclined to think you must choose which you are to be - an Agricultural University, or an Agricultural School. Seeing how very little real need there is in this section for the former, and how very very little it ~~could~~ can do to help the farmers' sons of the province, if a choice must be made, you should not have much difficulty in making it.

If you should make it your aim to establish a large, efficient and practically helpful farm school, rather than an agricultural university, it would seem to follow that not merely should the entrance examination be tremendously lowered, but that the strictly technical group of studies should be eliminated completely. Anything and everything that has not a practical and immediate bearing should be most carefully scrutinized, for the more you load up a course with theoretical and technical studies, the longer will such course be likely to become, and the less attractive will it be to farmers. I think you should give careful thought to the possibility of eliminating enough of the most technical of your teaching to enable you to materially shorten the time which students would have to spend at college. Your courses should I think be exclusively practical. Of course any person who may wish to specialize and become a teacher of agriculture will want more, but men of that class are so very very few as hardly to be worth considering, and they can get all they need at Guelph. You should I think almost, if not entirely, confine your efforts to helping the farmer and the farmer's son who intend to continue on the farm.

J. W. R.

There is another point on which they feel strongly at Mount Hermon, and which appeals to me also as of prime importance. Every man has to do manual work for at least two hours a day. This helps to reduce expenses, but other points in its favour, which are infinitely more important, are that it helps to give actual training in the physical work which has to be done on the farm, and more important still, that it prevents the break in the continuity of work in connection with the soil, which it is so important to maintain.

I feel quite sure that as an agricultural school, you should be able to secure a greatly increased number of students; even then the number of students, if we compare that number with our total English-speaking farm population, will at best be small. Most farmers cannot afford to put up the money, even though it be small, and their sons are usually wanted at home during part at least of each year. Courses covering three years of six months each would have much to recommend them.

A point to consider in this connection is whether by eliminating such of the teaching as is suitable rather to a university than to a school, you could not set free a considerable sum of money and a considerable number of men to engage in extension service work on a large scale. If you cannot get the farmers' sons to come to you in as large numbers as is desirable, then you must take your education to the farmers if you are to carry out your mission satisfactorily. This line of your work has in the past I think been more valuable than any other agricultural work done

by the College. I really do not attach much importance to the higher and technical education you may have been giving to specialists, who will not continue on any of our farms, but will merely drift into teaching work, probably in the United States, or in default of obtaining such employment become clerks such as on our own staff. I see no justification for the spending of so much money, and the employment of so many professors, to teach a handful of students of this class, who can get as good if not a better education elsewhere, without expense to you, or injury to the country. For practical purposes your best work can be done by continual meetings with farmers, persuading individual men to adopt certain lines of farm work, having farmers' Field Days, etc., etc. If your courses were of a kind that would appeal to practical farmers, and be within their reach, I should hope that your extension men would secure quite a number of sons of our best farmers for that course. I hear that your extension work is likely to be dropped because of the stopping of a government grant. This would be entirely too bad, for it would very seriously limit the usefulness of the college, and destroy one of the principal reasons for its existence. If you cannot get government grants for this purpose, then I think that you should carry on that work so far as possible out of your own funds, and if you were to rearrange matters as suggested, you should have both men and money available for this purpose.

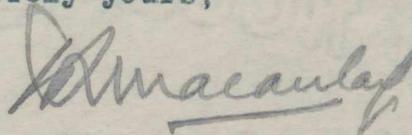
I send herewith some prospectuses of the New York School of Agriculture at Morrisville and the New York School of Agriculture at Alfred University. You will note that both of these aim at

J. W. R.

being Agriculture Schools instead of Agriculture Colleges, and that they are considered necessary even in the neighbourhood of such an outstanding agricultural University as Cornell.

I really feel that I must apologize for inflicting my views on you at such length. I am afraid, too, that you may think me too dogmatic, which I do not desire to be. I am merely giving my views as they gradually develop, in the hope that you may find something in them of a little value.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. W. R. Macaulay". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "J. W. R.". There are some small marks and a horizontal line under the name.

TBM/WM.

Prospectuses accompany this letter.