

**FILE 313**

**DAA - DAQ**

3846 St Dominique St  
Montreal

July 20<sup>th</sup> 1924

General Sir Arthur Currie

Dear Sir

Pardon me for writing to you, but I am very much worried just now.

My husband, Ernest Dale has just been discharged from the night Watchman Staff at the University as he unfortunately dropped asleep + missed a round "occasionally. I feel

that these lapses <sup>(2)</sup> were due to  
the long tedious hours, put in  
by the watchman, + I do not  
think that you can be aware  
that they are on duty for 13  
hours, seven ~~days~~ nights  
a week, with no time off  
whatever, We are all human  
& need a regular weekly  
rest, as is the custom for day  
workers.

This notice came as a great  
shock to me, as we have  
absolutely no money behind us,

(3)

our small savings being eaten up, last time when he was out of work for 2½ months + we have also recently moved to a smaller house, which caused us more expense.

I am writing to ask if you will be good enough, having such great influence, to speak on behalf of my husband to some of the employers of labour. He is an old British army soldier.

We have no friends to whom

we can appeal<sup>(4)</sup> for help,  
therefore work is absolutely  
necessary, as we have 2  
healthy boys (13-7) to keep.

This letter is sent without  
the knowledge of my  
husband.

I hope you will not think  
me rude for writing

yours sincerely

(Mrs) Alice & Dale

July 29th, 1924.

Mrs. Alice Dale,  
3846 St. Dominique Street,  
Montreal.

Dear Mrs. Dale:-

I am sorry that I have not before this acknowledged your letter of July 20th and I am also sorry that the University was unable to continue to employ Mr. Dale. The times when he missed his round occurred so frequently that we were forced to take some action. You will agree that there is no use in having a watchman who is in the habit of dropping asleep.

I may say that at one time we allowed nights off, but it was the unanimous wish of the staff at that time to be employed continuously. They preferred to work the extra night rather than to lose the pay.

If I hear of any work for which I can recommend Mr. Day I shall be only too happy to do so.

Yours faithfully,

919 City Hall Avenue  
Montreal.

Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> 1923.

General Sir Arthur Currie.  
McGill University.

Dear Sir,

I enclose reference for your approval as you requested & trust it will be satisfactory. Please return. I omitted to mention yesterday that I was originally a Medical Student at Manchester, England & passed 2 Exams giving it up owing to the death of my father.

Kindness

Thanking you for your

I am Sir

Yours Obediently  
Ernest S. Dale

April  
Twenty-third  
1920.

Professor Nelson C. Dale,  
Department of Geology,  
Hamilton College,  
Clinton, N.Y.

Dear Professor Dale:-

I have just received your telegram dated April 22nd, giving information with reference to the work which you would like Mr. Dresser to do if he goes to Clinton.

I have just communicated with Mr. Dresser and find that he has decided it will be impossible for him, on account of some other engagements in May, to undertake this work which at first he thought he might be able to carry out.

It has just occurred to me that Mr. R.P.D. Graham, M.A., our Professor of Mineralogy, might be able to undertake the work to which you refer. He would be free about May 5th. I have sent your telegram to him and have asked him to reply to you directly, informing you as to whether he can carry out this work, or not.

With best wishes,

I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

Acting Principal.

April  
Twenty-third  
1920.

Prof. R.P.D. Graham,  
Chemistry Building.

Dear Prof. Graham:-

Dr. Adams desires me  
to send you the enclosed telegram from  
Professor Dale, about which he has  
communicated with Dr. Bancroft.

Dr. Adams requests that  
you will reply to Prof. Dale at once,  
seeing that he is in a hurry to know of  
your decision.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

R. CONSOLATO GENERALE D'ITALIA NEL CANADA

No.2170 Pos.39

Montreal April 28th I 92I

Sir:

Following the conversation I had the honour to have with you yesterday, I am glad to assure you that it would be very greatly appreciated by the Italians living in Canada, as well as by all my country and my Government, to see the McGill University commemorate, some time during the course of the present year, the sixth centenary of Dante's death. The name and the works of this great Italian reach far beyond the national limits of Italy and are rather the ideal patrimony of all men on the earth who love culture and beauty. For this reason, this event is being celebrated by all the civilised world with pious veneration and heartfelt gratitude.

I know that Canada, which, during my stay here, I have learned to love and praise for her high civilization and culture, will join heartily in this world celebration and I think that McGill University with

General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D.

Principal of McGill University

Montreal, Que.



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April  
Twenty-ninth  
1921.

Signor Ricciardi,  
Royal Consul General for Italy,  
69 Osborne Street,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 28th, and hasten to confirm the assurance that McGill University will consider it a duty and a pleasure to commemorate in some manner, before the close of the present year, the sixth centenary of Dante's death.

There is no educational institution but what must value highly the contribution to the literature and life of the world made by this great Italian. His place among the great men of the world is secure for all time.

The form of our commemorative ceremonies will be decided upon later, and I think now that the date will be somewhere about the 1st of November next. I shall hope to consult with you further regarding the matter and shall value greatly your advice.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

Principal.

R. CONSOLATO GENERALE D'ITALIA NEL CANADA

Montreal October 7 1921.

No 4400

Pos 39.

Dear Sir,

DANTE.

Referring to my interview with you and your letter to me of April 29th last, can you give me any definite news of the day set apart for the commemorative ceremonies to celebrate the sixth centenary of Dante's death.

Thanking you in anticipation of your courtesy and a reply at your earliest convenience

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

*Liniano*

Royal Consul General for Italy.

General Sir Arthur Currie G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D.

Principal of McGill University

MONTREAL.

R. CONSOLATO  
GENERALE  
D'ITALIA  
NEL  
CANADA

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# NATIONAL DANTE COMMITTEE

*...To promote in the United States a national recognition  
of the six hundredth anniversary of Dante's death*

1321—1921

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*Chairman*

JAMES BYRNE  
*Vice Chairman*

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23 West 43rd Street  
New York City

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*Executive Secretary*

IRENE DI ROBILANT  
*Associate Secretary*

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## Suggestions For a Dante Commemoration In Colleges and Schools

The information which, even thus early in the year, has reached the headquarters of the National Dante Committee, is sufficient to show that the commemoration of the Dante Year will be the greatest literary anniversary that the United States has ever known.

In many parts of the country the commemoration has already begun. The United States is celebrating, not a Dante Day nor a Dante Week, but a Dante Year. The fact that the anniversary of Dante's death falls on September 14th, a date unsuitable alike for exercises in colleges and for large public meetings in centers of population, discourages the designation of any single day as a Dante Day, and points to a celebration in the late spring or early autumn.

### Lectures and Study Classes

It is especially recommended that colleges and schools arrange lectures, singly or in series, on Dante's life and works, and classes in the Italian language leading up to the reading of the "Divina Commedia" in the original, as has already been done by many universities and colleges with marked success.

If it is desired to have lectures delivered by some person other than a member of the college faculty, the National Dante Committee will be glad to suggest the names of possible speakers.

School teachers who wish to speak briefly on Dante will be assisted by a pamphlet shortly to be issued by the National Dante Com-

mittee under the title "An Outline of Dante Study," which gives in small compass the essential facts with regard to Dante's life and works and his place in literature.

Stereopticon slides may be secured from the McAllister-Keller Co., Inc., of 176 Fulton Street, New York City, or from the National Dante Committee.

### Pageants

Dante's works, with their wealth of colorful dramatic material, offer extraordinary possibilities for presentation in pageant form.

The text of a pageant suitable for production in schools and colleges is now being prepared by Professor Jack Randall Crawford of Yale University for the National Dante Committee. It contemplates production on a large scale, but is accompanied by notes which indicate how it may be modified to permit small-scale production.

The pageant text may be obtained from the National Dante Committee, as soon as it is in print, upon payment of a small fee.

### Libraries

College and public libraries may recognize the Dante centenary by arranging exhibits of Dante material. If the library's collection is a large one, it may be possible to arrange an exhibit which includes early editions, manuscripts, American contributions to Dante study, etc. In any case, it would be well to feature Dante books on a special table throughout the year.

If the library is not already supplied with Dante's works in the original and in standard translations and with the most important critical works, it would be well to urge that they be donated or purchased. A bibliography of selected works, prepared by Professor Ernest H. Wilkins of the University of Chicago, will be supplied by the National Dante Committee upon request.

### Essay Contest

Dante may be made the subject of an essay contest for undergraduates. It is desirable, if possible, to assign it as the subject of a regular collegiate contest; if that is impossible, a special contest may be announced, with a prize offered by some interested organization or individual.

The National Dante Committee will entertain requests that the official Dante Medal be awarded, in combination with some other prize, to the winner of a collegiate essay contest, provided that the conditions of the contest, its auspices, etc., are approved.

## Music

There are several musical compositions appropriate to Dante which may be used as items of a literary or musical program or which may be combined to form a Dante music festival. The following compositions are suggested:

LISZT'S "Dante Symphony"

WOLF-FERRARI'S "Vita Nuova"

TSCHAIKOWSKY'S "Francesca da Rimini"

ROSSINI'S "Nessun maggiore dolore" from "Otello"  
(*Words by Dante*)

VERDI'S "Ave Maria e Pater Noster"  
(*Words by Dante*)

All of these compositions will be on the programs of some of the country's greatest musical organizations during the Dante year.

"Vita Nuova" lends itself to a semi-dramatic treatment if desired.

## Exhibition of Pictures

Excellent material for an art exhibit is afforded by the several portraits of Dante, the Naples bust and the so-called Death Mask, illustrations of the "Divina Commedia" such as those by Doré, Botticelli, Delacroix and others, the Caetani charts of the "Commedia," Rossetti's illustrations of the "Vita Nuova," illustrations of scenes in Dante's life, and pictures of Dante's Italy.

## Dante Memorial Tablet

The colleges and universities of the United States are invited to contribute, however modestly, to a fund to be used in sending a permanent bronze memorial tablet to Dante's tomb in Ravenna as a tribute from institutions of learning in the United States. The names of the institutions which join in the memorial will be listed in a document to accompany the tablet.

Contributions for this purpose should be sent to Dr. Stephen P. Duggan, Director of the Institute of International Education, 419 West 117th Street, New York City.

## Individual Study

After all, the most appropriate way to commemorate the Dante Centenary is to study Dante's works and the language in which he wrote.

"An Outline of Dante Study" will prove to be of value as indicating the ground to be covered. Another outline has been issued as a reading course by the Home Education Division of the Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior, Washington. Those who wish to go into the subject more deeply may consult Professor Wilkins' "One Hundred Dante Books."

Of the English translations of the "Divina Commedia," the National Dante Committee especially recommends that by Professor Charles Eliot Norton, a centenary edition of which, in one volume, is being issued by Houghton Mifflin Company at the request of the National Dante Committee.

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Inquiries may be addressed to  
Irwin Smith, Executive Secretary,  
National Dante Committee,  
23 West 43rd Street, N. Y. City.

October  
Tenth  
1921.

Signor Ricciardi,  
Royal Consul General for Italy,  
69 Osborne Street,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of recent date with reference to the commemorative ceremonies to celebrate the 6th Centenary of Dante's death.

On account of the Centenary Celebrations at McGill the programme for the above mentioned ceremonies cannot be arranged until next week. As soon as a tentative programme is prepared I shall let you know and shall hope to have the benefit of your advice and cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.