



NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL  
CANADA

CABLE ADDRESS: "RESEARCH"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OTTAWA June 28, 1932.

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

My dear Sir Arthur:

I regret exceedingly that I completely overlooked sending you a note regarding the grants made to Hibbert. He has received a series of grants from us beginning in 1929. The dates and amounts are as follows:

October 11, 1929	- \$700	-
March 15, 1930	- \$800	✓
March 19, 1931	- \$2,500	✓
March 15, 1932	- \$2,000	✓

*Not paid to University by Dr. Hibbert*

All of the above sums have been paid over to him, and he has approximately \$3,000 on hand, or at least he has not accounted to us for grants to that extent.

He asked for \$3,000 in March, 1932, and I was compelled to cut the amount down to \$2,000. As a matter of fact, I did the utmost for him I could, for we all regard his work as of considerable importance.

Sincerely yours, ✓

H.M. Tory  
President.

*How much is on hand?*

*600  
2000  
2600*



Miss Fowler & Dr Mitchell 190-

June	Miss Fowler	80.00
	Dr Mitchell	110.00
July	do	110.00
Aug.	Miss Fowler	
to May 31		800.00

Miss Fowler



7th November, 1928.

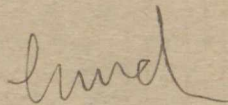
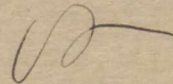
H. M. Tory, Esq., D.Sc.,  
President - National Research Council,  
178, Queen Street, Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Dr. Tory,

I wonder if you are likely to be in Montreal during the next few weeks? If so, I would like to have the chance of seeing you and having a chat about various things. I would appreciate it very much if you could spare me the time.

With all kind regards, believe me

Sincerely yours,



P.S.

If you do come and are free at luncheon time, will you not give me the pleasure of your company?



MCGILL UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY

6th November, 1928.

MEMORANDUM

TO Dean Martin.

FROM Professor Hibbert.

Dear Sir,

Professor Hibbert asks me to enclose herewith letter from Mr H.M.Tory, of the National Research Council, Ottawa, which he received yesterday, for your perusal.

Yours very truly,

*Anna Carn.*

Secretary.



H. M. TORY, D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.C.,  
PRESIDENT

DEAN F. D. ADAMS, Sc.D., LL.D., F.R.S.  
CHAS. CAMSELL, B.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.C.  
DEAN A. L. CLARK, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.S.C.  
HUME CRONYN, B.A., LL.B.  
DEAN A. FRIGON, B.Sc., D.Sc.  
SIR GEORGE GARNEAU, B.A.Sc., LL.D.  
J. H. GRISDALE, B.Agr., D.Sc.A.



PROF. A. B. MACALLUM, Ph.D., Sc.D., LL.D.,  
F.R.S.  
PRESIDENT A. S. MACKENZIE, Ph.D., D.C.L.,  
LL.D., F.R.S.C.  
J. M. McCARTHY, B.Sc.  
J. A. McCLELLAND, Esq.  
PROF. J. C. McLENNAN, O.B.E., Ph.D., D.Sc.,  
LL.D., F.R.S.  
PRESIDENT W. C. MURRAY, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S.C.  
DEAN R. F. RUTTAN, B.A., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.C.

CABLE ADDRESS "RESEARCH"

S. P. EAGLESON, SECRETARY-TREASURER  
178 QUEEN ST., OTTAWA, ONT.

## NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

2nd November, 1928.

Dr. Harold Hibbert,  
McGill University,  
Montreal.

Dear Dr. Hibbert:

I have your letter of October 30th.

Let me begin by saying that Ontario is receiving a good deal of credit for pioneering a provincial organization for research - credit which she really does not deserve. There has been in existence in the Province of Alberta since 1922 a Provincial Research Council which the Government has supported to the extent of \$50,000 a year, which would represent an endowment of approximately \$1,000,000. Reports of this work have been published and distributed in the provinces of Canada and in many other parts of the world, and constitute a very considerable volume of research.

Further, as you doubtless know, there is a Development Board in existence in Nova Scotia and one created last year in the Province of Manitoba. With these Boards the National Research Council has been co-operating - in the case of Alberta for some years, in the case of Nova Scotia for two years past, and it is now beginning co-operation with Manitoba. As a matter of fact, before I left Alberta, as President of the National Research Council, I had been in communication with all the provinces of Canada where it seemed possible to co-operate with the provincial organizations.

With regard to university activities, I do not see the slightest reason why the universities should look with anxiety to the development of either the Dominion or its provincial organizations. The aim of the National Research Council will be to co-ordinate as far as possible the work going on, and to assist, as it has done in the past, the university professors in carrying out any special investigations they have on hand. Certainly, the field of Industrial Chemistry, for example, is large enough to give full scope to the universities, if they desire to enter that field, and to the Dominion and Provincial Councils, if they desire to enter upon the solution of special problems.

I think you are mistaken in the statement in the third paragraph of your letter that the United States Government has confined its efforts "essentially to standardization work, and the same is true in England and in Germany." The Bureau of Standards has entered



frankly and fearlessly into the field of pure science when a pure science problem has been presented to it, and in the last few years has opened its doors to the industries in such a way that an individual industry may send its problems there for solution, provided it is willing to pay the price of the investigation.

In England the National Research Council has entered upon a very wide and varied field of work. The National Physical Laboratories devote their attention almost exclusively to problems of pure science, in addition, of course, to necessary standardization work. The Coal Research Laboratories under the National Research Council are probably doing the most important work on coal now being done anywhere in the world, with the exception possibly of work such as is being carried on in some of the great private laboratories in Germany. Further, the National Research Council is spending about £20,000 of its own money and directing the expenditure of an additional £20,000 from the industry in the Wool and Worsted Research Station at Leeds, a station not connected with the University at all. At the University Dr. Barker is also carrying on such researches in the wool industry as his University connection makes possible. The Cotton Research Station at Didsbury, Manchester, is doing exactly the same thing under the direction of the National Research Council.

In Germany the institutions supported by the Imperial Government are doing work in standardization, but also are carrying on work which definitely belongs to pure science. All the various institutes that come under the name of the "Kaiser Wilhelm" (of which there are 26 in the country) are working on problems in pure science in every branch, receiving the support of the industry and also the support of the Imperial Government. All this is in addition to the work being done in the universities themselves.

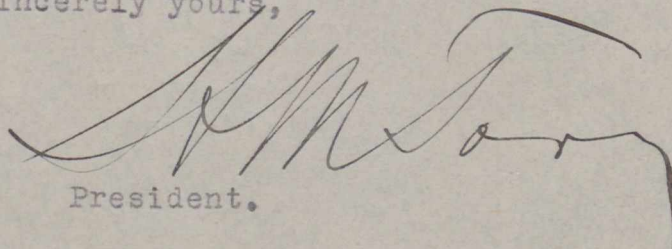
I merely mention these facts because there seems to have been some anxiety on the part of the universities that the Dominion Government was going to enter their field of opportunity - a perfectly unwarranted fear.

The Research Council intends to continue to act as a co-ordinating agency, supporting by scholarships the training of men in the universities as heretofore, and also continuing to give assistance to special researches, as may be required. Apart from that, of course, the universities will be absolutely at liberty to undertake work along any lines which may seem wise to them. The Research Council will endeavour to keep in close touch with the universities, so that its own policy will be influenced by a knowledge of what is going on. On the Council there will continue to be men representing the universities, so that the universities will be kept in close touch with the operations of the Council.



As to giving you "some definite statement as to the future lines upon which the Government intends to proceed in the carrying out of its own research programme," this is impossible to do at the moment, except to say that we intend entering the field of research on very broad lines. We are naming our laboratory the "National Research Laboratories", and we will feel free to undertake any work that commends itself to us as being likely to assist in the development of Canada and in the growth of knowledge.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A.M. Taylor". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name "President.".

President.



*Confidential* MCGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

HAROLD HIBBERT

PROFESSOR OF INDUSTRIAL

AND CELLULOSE CHEMISTRY

6th November, 1928.

Dean C. F. Martin,  
McGill University,  
M o n t r e a l.

My dear Dean Martin,

I am enclosing herewith the correspondence forwarded to Dr Tory, and wish to remind you that the underlying idea in forwarding the first communication to him was to prevent, as far as possible, all overlapping and duplication between research work which can be carried out at the Universities and that to be carried out by the Government.

In particular you will recall we had in mind a recent piece of research work carried out on "Low temperature calcination of Magnesium Limestone". This problem, according to information supplied me by Mr E. Parke Cameron, Director of the Pulp and Paper Division, Forest Products Laboratory, originated in their laboratories, but could not be brought to a conclusion since it necessitated co-operative work with the Department of Mines on low temperature calcination.

The latter work has now been brought to a successful conclusion, apparently, since in recent literature a reference is made to the success of the process for the manufacture of sulfite liquor used in making sulfite pulp. We also note that application has been made for patents on the process and assignment has been made to the National Research Council.

Mr Cameron has, apparently, not been kept in touch with these developments, the work having been carried out by a Mr Stewart at the Bureau of Mines in Ottawa under the auspices of the Research Council.

I quote this as just one instance in which a matter of vital interest to the Forest Products Laboratory, to the Pulp and Paper Association especially, and to McGill University, has been kept from these authorities, and apparently no attempt made to keep them in touch with the progress of the work.

I would very much like to have Dr Tory's view on this as a typical instance of difficulties likely to be caused unless the most thorough-going co-operation is effected as between the Research Council's activities, the different Government laboratories and the Universities.

Assuming the patents possess considerable value to the Pulp and Paper industry, they would naturally be very much interested in

knowing



knowing how far such rights were to be restricted to Canada, and how far they were to become the property of other competing concerns in the United States and elsewhere.

In order that I may be sure of the data, I have written to Mr Eagleson, Secretary of the Research Council, for confirmation of this, and as soon as I receive his reply will pass same on to you.

Yours very truly,

Howard Hibbert

RH.NC

Professor of Industrial & Cellulose Chemistry.

P.S. In agreement with you - this is not to be sent later held as a reminder for you. In view of the necessity for the clearest possible relations with Dr. Torg and the help he can give us, feel also that nothing should be done in any way likely to antagonize him. The letter to Mr. Eagleson has been destroyed.



5th November, 1928.

Dr. H. M. Tory,  
President - National Research Council,  
178, Queen Street, Ottawa, Ontario.

My dear Dr. Tory,

I am so grateful to you for your kind letter and enclosure, i.e., copy of a letter written to Dr. Hibbert, and I hasten to explain what happened.

I have been laid off work for the last two weeks, and half of that time I was in bed with a throat infection which made me feel pretty miserable. During the early part of my convalescence, Hibbert came in to see me, and showed me a letter which I may not have read carefully enough, and I certainly was not in any condition, perhaps, to think accurately on important matters. He showed me the letter he was writing to you, and as I read it, I took it to mean chiefly that he wanted to know in what way our University should act so as not to conflict with the National Research Council work.

We had talked on several occasions about promoting the industrial work in the University, and I had contemplated (just prior to getting ill) making a visit to some of our wealthy men, asking them if they would not contribute towards the enlargement of our present Industrial Research Laboratory in order that we might do our share, especially as regards Mining and Chemistry, in contributing to the country's work.

I certainly did not read into his letter the doubts that he seems to have made as to any harm that would come to the University from the National Research Council, although I do recall being rather struck with the fact that he was asking questions that you probably would not feel ready at this moment to answer. No doubt, if I had read the letter more carefully, I would not have let it go out.

I was likewise struck with the fact that such a



5th November, 1928.

letter sent from the University (i.e. from me in the absence of Sir Arthur Currie) would have been in better taste, but knowing how ambitious he is to get whatever credit that may come in initiating anything in his Department, I rather weakly let him send it, and told him that when I was well, I would drop you a line, asking you in what way you would expect us to coöperate.

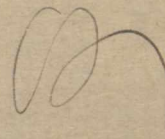
I can see now what I did not see before - that his letter must have been not only annoying, but even aggressive, and perhaps impertinent, and I regret very much that I did not read it more carefully before letting him send it. I thought your letter to Dr. Hibbert was very much to the point, and I shall take care in future that this kind of thing does not occur again.

You will be interested to know that Sir Arthur is improving in every way, and in the course of a few months should be quite restored to health. However, the Governors have asked me to take on his duties practically for the rest of the winter in the expectation of giving him as much rest as possible.

Of course, you know that both Macallum and Ruttan are now off our active University staff, and I sincerely hope that when the time comes to replace them, we can add to your Committee (if you wish) men who will go far towards helping you in this colossal work.

With renewed thanks for your kindness, believe me

Very cordially yours,



(Acting Principal)



H. M. TORY, D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.C.,  
PRESIDENT

DEAN F. D. ADAMS, Sc.D., LL.D., F.R.S.  
CHAS. CAMSELL, B.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.C.  
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DEAN A. FRIGON, B.Sc., D.Sc.  
SIR GEORGE GARNEAU, B.A.Sc., LL.D.  
J. H. GRIDALE, B.Agr., D.Sc.A.



Canada

PROF. A. B. MACALLUM, Ph.D., Sc.D., LL.D.,  
F.R.S.  
PRESIDENT A. S. MACKENZIE, Ph.D., D.C.L.,  
LL.D., F.R.S.C.  
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CABLE ADDRESS "RESEARCH"

S. P. EAGLESON, SECRETARY-TREASURER  
178 QUEEN ST., OTTAWA, ONT.

## NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

2nd November, 1928.

Dr. C.F. Martin,  
Acting Principal,  
McGill University,  
Montreal.

Dear Dr. Martin:

I received today a letter from Hibbert which he claims to have shown to you and to which you gave your approval. I have written to him a rather informal reply, a copy of which I enclose.

It seems to me that he has taken a good deal upon himself to write to me asking for a statement of what the Government proposes doing, and to write in the name of the University of which he is a professor. If the University really has any feeling of concern about the development of the National Research Council Laboratories, it seems to me that the inquiry should come from the University itself, and not from an individual professor, who apparently is fearful that something may be done by the Government that might be done in his department. I confess to some little feeling of annoyance that instead of writing to me specifically about our relation to his own department, he should have taken it upon himself to inquire in the name of the University about the National Research Laboratories. Perhaps I am a wee bit stupid, but that is the way it appeals to me.

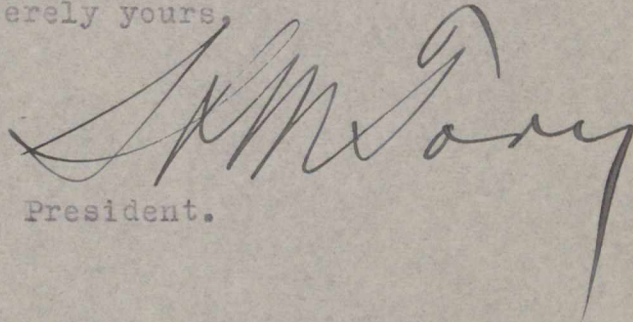
This statement is for your own consumption: The universities have nothing to fear from the development of the Research Council's work. I sincerely hope that before another five years have passed we will be



able to see properly organized research schools in the universities where by the help of the Research Council men can be so trained that it will be unnecessary for them to leave Canada to complete their work. My judgment is that the weakest part of our whole university system in Canada today is in our graduate work. We train a great body of men in undergraduate courses of an excellent quality, and because we have no graduate schools worthy of the name, we allow other countries to take away our choicest men and train them for their own services. I would hope that in the effort to straighten this out, McGill, instead of being fearful of the National Research Council's work, would join with us in helping to remove what I regard as a stigma upon our universities.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A. M. G. G. G.', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the typed name 'President.'.

Enc.

President.



2nd November, 1928.

Dr. Harold Hibbert,  
McGill University,  
Montreal.

Dear Dr. Hibbert:

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Further, as you doubtless know, there is a Development Board in existence in Nova Scotia and one created last year in the Province of Manitoba. With these Boards the National Research Council has been co-operating - in the case of Alberta for some years, in the case of Nova Scotia for two years past, and it is now beginning co-operation with Manitoba. As a matter of fact, before I left Alberta, as President of the National Research Council, I had been in communication with all the provinces of Canada where it seemed possible to co-operate with the provincial organizations.

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The Research Council intends to continue to act as a co-ordinating agency, supporting by scholarships the training of men in the universities as heretofore, and also continuing to give assistance to special researches, as may be required. Apart from that, of course, the universities will be absolutely at liberty to undertake work along any lines which may seem wise to them. The Research Council will endeavour to keep in close touch with the universities, so that its own policy will be influenced by a knowledge of what is going on. On the Council there will continue to be men representing the universities, so that the universities will be kept in close touch with the operations of the Council.



As to giving you "some definite statement as to the future lines upon which the Government intends to proceed in the carrying out of its own research programme," this is impossible to do at the moment, except to say that we intend entering the field of research on very broad lines. We are naming our laboratory the "National Research Laboratories", and we will feel free to undertake any work that commends itself to us as being likely to assist in the development of Canada and in the growth of knowledge.

Sincerely yours,

President.



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE



CABLE ADDRESS: "VERA"  
CODE A.B.C. (5TH ED.)

EDMONTON, Feb. 18th, 1928.  
ALBERTA, CANADA

Personal

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

My dear Sir Arthur:

I regret exceedingly that I missed you on your visit to Ottawa. Your letter was forwarded to me here. I assume that during your visit to Ottawa you had the matter straightened out. Fearing that such might not be the case, I wrote to Mr. Stewart a personal letter as follows, which I will ask you to treat also as confidential:

"He states in his letter that the Department of Interior was planning to branch out into fundamental research in the various branches of pure chemistry in connection with the laboratories at Montreal and apparently under the direction of Mr. Cameron. Now, I hesitate to say a word about it but I cannot but feel that this is nothing if not Cory's effort to forestall in some measure the work of the projected National Laboratories. To my mind, to establish a fundamental research in these laboratories at Montreal in a building adjacent to the fine chemical laboratories of McGill University is not only a waste of money but nothing would be accomplished by it. The staff at present there are capable of doing the practical studies associated with the pulp and paper business, but pure research is beyond their capacity. In so far as McGill University is able to carry on pure research, they should be encouraged to do so but Cameron and his staff



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE



CABLE ADDRESS: "VERA"  
CODE A.B.C. (5TH ED.)

EDMONTON,  
ALBERTA, CANADA

-2-

should be kept on the problems which they are fitted to solve. I do hope that no further conflict is to take place over these matters.

It is unfortunate that Dr. Hibbert is a rather difficult man and probably should keep away from the parts of the laboratory devoted to practical work, but he is a very able man without question, without a peer in Canada for the work he is doing, and such men are always difficult. This is one of the things which a University President soon learns to be patient with because of the quality of the man."

It has always been my view that we should encourage fundamental research to the limit and in the future development of the National Research Laboratories the only limit that I would personally put on the development of research in the universities would be that the problems must arise naturally from the work of the university staff and that we should do as heretofore, provide money for equipment and assistance.

I hope you will not mind my saying that I repeat a judgment which I have given you on various occasions, viz., that if the universities tie themselves up with industrial organizations they will be making a fundamental error.

I am sorry for the delay in answering this letter but I have been away from home and have not been very well, so having written to Stewart I thought there was nothing further I could do. I am going to write you a letter in a day or two covering the whole situation as I understand there is some feeling at McGill with regard to the development



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE



CABLE ADDRESS: "VERA"  
CODE A.B.C. (5TH ED.)

EDMONTON,  
ALBERTA, CANADA

-3-

of the National Research Laboratories. To regard the National Research Laboratories as inimical to the universities is utterly senseless. I am confident that out of the National Research Laboratories' movement will come the development of graduate schools of research in at least two of the universities of Canada, -at McGill and Toronto. However as stated above, I shall write you further in a few days about the whole matter as I see it.

Sincerely yours,

President.



January 25th, 1928.

Dr. H. M. Tory,  
Chairman, National Research Council,  
Chateau Laurier,  
Ottawa, Ont.

My dear Dr. Tory:-

I am going to Ottawa next Monday morning and should arrive at the Chateau Laurier about 12.30. I would like very much if you would take lunch with me there in order that we may discuss some matters in connection with the organization chart proposed for research in the Cellulose Institute at McGill. I may say that all is not going well and I think you can help us.

I do not think anyone could accuse the University of lack of willingness to co-operate in this venture. When we received the Eddy bequest we might have instituted a chair in History, or even in Hebrew, with it, but we chose to put this money back into the pulp and paper industry from which it had come, and I approached the Pulp and Paper Association with a view to determining how best we could co-operate. I was fortunate in finding that there had been set up in the Association a research section, which was most anxious to co-operate with the University, and we agreed that the first thing to be done was to secure the services of a distinguished Chemist in Cellulose. We selected Dr. Hibbert after great investigation - and when I say "we" I mean the Pulp and Paper Association and the University. The University has an agreement with the <sup>Association</sup> ~~University~~ that Dr. Hibbert's <sup>Association</sup> successor must always be a man agreeable to the Association, that is, they had as much to say in his



appointment as I had and will have as much to say in all future appointments.

As matters progressed it was decided to build the Institute. The Association found some difficulty in selling bonds to the necessary extent of \$350,000 and the University to help the project subscribed for \$75,000 of these bonds. We also gave the land and in addition promised to bear one-third of the cost of maintenance. All these things indicate a more than willingness on our part for co-operation.

You will remember the Forest Products Laboratories here, which included a pulp and paper division, all of which was under the control and direction of the Hon. Mr. Stewart's Department. You will remember that we tried to induce the Government to leave that section of the Laboratories which dealt with the Botanical side and the Physical side here, but without success, and these have been moved to Ottawa. There was a hesitancy on the part of the Government to leave the pulp and paper division here, but eventually that hesitancy was overcome, but not altogether with the goodwill of the Deputy Minister. In due time the contract between the University and the Association was consummated and the question then arose as to the allotment of space. I may say that from this time on it has seemed to us that the attitude of the Government section has been hostile and that they have been putting a lot of sand in the machinery ever since. When the allotment of space was made the University was decidedly disappointed and again we gave way. If present plans are carried out the University will have only a few rooms on the top floor, and we have let ourselves in for decidedly the worst of the bargain if we, for these rooms, have obliged ourselves to pay one-third of the cost of maintenance of this four story building, with a large addition in which the pulp mill is housed.

But that is not my main objection, which arises from this organization chart. The chart



provides for a joint administrative committee composed of a Chairman (Association) three *Association* assistant members and one University member, together with a manager of Laboratories, and it is suggested that Mr. Cameron, the Government representative, be the manager of Laboratories. These laboratories provide for two sections of research - one technical and the other fundamental, both under Government and Association control. The technical section provides for a Technical Director and Assistant Director and four sections. With these I am not very much concerned, but it is quite a large organization. Under the Fundamental Research Section there is a Director (Association) and Assistant Director (Association) and three departments - (a) Physical Chemistry, - 2 Assistants (Association)  
(b) Organic Chemistry, - 5 Assistants  
(c) Colloid Chemistry, - 2 Assistants

You will see that the whole Fundamental Section is an Association and Government section and that the University is crowded right out of the picture. To my mind the inspiration of this organization has come from the Government's representatives. To me this means a duplication and an uneconomical use of resources. From the beginning it was the intention and understanding that the University would do the work in fundamental research, while the technical branch would be left altogether to the Government and the Association. At the same time it was provided that some of the workers paid by the Government and the Association would be employed in the Fundamental Research Section. The Agreement even states that they may do a little teaching and have University rank.

To my mind the only sensible thing to do is to have this fundamental research done by the University and the Director of this section should be the Professor of Cellulose Chemistry (at present Hibbert). In that way all the resources of the Government, the Association



Dr. H. M. Tory

- 4 -

and the University would be pooled for the benefit of this work which we are all anxious to see a success. I cannot see how co-operation between the University and the others interested could be effected if we set up a fundamental research section in one corner of the building and the others set up a fundamental research section in another corner. As I say there will be duplication and waste of energy. I have always understood that the Government were willing that the University should participate in fundamental research to the greatest possible extent and that it was your intention to leave this matter of fundamental research largely to the Universities. This Institute is one of the first organizations where co-operation is attempted and we immediately find the Government insisting on having not only a technical research branch, but a fundamental research section as well. From a few words I had with the Hon. Mr. Stewart I gathered that he was of what, I think, is your opinion that this matter of fundamental research in the Institute here might be left to the University's staff and direction, always, of course, with the wishes of the joint administrative committee being observed.

You will note that the Fundamental Research Section as suggested provides for Physical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry and Colloid Chemistry Departments. Now I have all these in the University and am willing to place them at the disposal of the Institute. Co-operation will be weak indeed if all these departments are duplicated by the Government and the Association.

I believe that the attitude of those members of the Association who helped to draw up this chart was influenced by the attitude of the Government's representatives. It is an altogether different attitude than what they held a year ago and it looks as if they were being used to make the Deputy Minister's antagonism effective. I shall bring this chart with me on Monday and hope to have a full and frank discussion with you.



Dr. H. M. Tory

- 5 -

I may say that I nearly wrote to you a few weeks ago on another matter over which the Government's representatives took a hostile stand. As is usually the case the building could not be erected and equipped for the sum originally provided. This left us short in the matter of equipment. The University being the poor member of the trio and having already obligated itself to the extent of \$500,000 could not help further in the matter of equipment. The Government's representatives took the attitude that they could not very well equip a building which did not belong to them. It seemed to me strange that the Government with one breath could ask the people of this country to support a research organization which will run into millions of money, and with another breath could refuse to join in the equipping of a building already provided and where nothing but research, and much of it Government research, will be carried on.

There is just one other matter in connection with all this, and that is - some of the antagonism may arise from the inability of Dr. Hibbert to work harmoniously with others. I am ready to acknowledge this, but I want to subscribe to the principle that no one man can be allowed to nullify the success of such an experiment as we are making. If Hibbert cannot pull his weight in making this thing a success I must get some one else, but because of an antagonism to him the success of the venture must not be jeopardized.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



HUME CRONYN

LONDON

CANADA

January 27th, 1928.

General Sir A.W.Currie, G.C.M.G.,  
Principal, McGill College,  
Montreal, Que.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

This morning I learned that Dr. Tory was on his way to Edmonton and would not be back in Ottawa before the 20th of March. In case you had no reply to your letter regarding an interview, I pass this word on.

Would you feel inclined to have a talk with R.B.Bennett, Opposition Leader, on the subject which we discussed? Of course, I could write him, but your knowledge of the situation in Montreal is more intimate than mine, and you could say things about the situation there which would not come well from me.

I am fairly well satisfied Bennett does not understand the relation which the Department of the Interior - and, more particularly, the Deputy Minister - play in the tangle which has arisen.

To the same extent, I feel sure that the Research Council, taken as a body, have as little knowledge of the situation as I had before my talk with you and Professor Hibbert.

My belief in Industrial Research as distinguished from fundamental research, and my anxiety to have it placed on a firm basis in Canada, must be my apology for again bothering you.

Sincerely yours,

*Hume Cronyn*

HC-RM.



McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

HAROLD HIBBERT

PROFESSOR OF INDUSTRIAL

AND CELLULOSE CHEMISTRY

25th January, 1928.

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal,  
McGill University.

Dear Sir Arthur,

Mr Cronin, President of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, and a member of the National Research Council, telephoned this morning requesting an interview, same being made at the suggestion of Mr R. B. Bennett.

Mr Cronin, so I understood, sponsored the Bill presented some years ago looking towards the creation of a National Research Institute in Ottawa, and he has been informed by Mr Bennett that McGill feels that the Government is showing a tendency to encroach on the sphere of activities of the University, and, presumably, in order to diminish the opposition on this score is anxious to discuss the question.

If you would care to see him, I shall be glad to arrange for an interview at your convenience.

He informs me that he is well-known to you and that he would welcome the chance to discuss this problem.

Yours sincerely,

*Harold Hibbert.*

HH.NC

Professor of Industrial & Cellulose Chemistry.

*Saw Mr Brown at the Royal Club.  
Found him thoroughly sympathetic  
to University's point of view. He  
will talk with Jory. Salas spoke  
to Holt about the matter "we'll make them  
be satisfied"*





NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL  
CANADA

DIVISION OF  
INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY  
G. S. WHITBY, DIRECTOR

OTTAWA

October 28th 1929.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:

Thanks for your letter of October 26th. I note that you feel that the creation of an Honorary Professorship might give rise to difficulties, and I am entirely prepared to accept your decision and not to press the matter any further.

Yours sincerely,

GSW:GES

Director.



October 26th, 1929.

Sir Robert Falconer, K.C.M.G.,  
President, University of Toronto,  
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Sir Robert:-

I am very much obliged for your letters of the 18th and 23rd of October and highly appreciate your co-operation and the consideration you have given the matter.

I am in entire concurrence with you. I have replied to my correspondent to the effect that the proposal involves insuperable difficulties.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



President's Office.



October 23, 1929

My dear Sir Arthur:

I have made inquiries indirectly from Dr. Speakman with regard to the suggestion that members of the staff of the Ontario Research Council should be given honorary positions as professors on our university staff. No mention was made to him of a similar suggestion having been made in regard to the staff of the Dominion Research Council at Ottawa. Dr. Speakman is strongly opposed to any such suggestion. He believes that it is in their own interests to keep entirely free from formal connection with the University. Their work is in industrial research and not in the primary sciences. The University's research he believes should be confined to primary and applied sciences, and should in no way conflict with theirs which deals with definite problems. I should therefore not mention the matter further to him. His decision, however, as I see it settles the question for us in regard to Ottawa, because we could not ask Ottawa people to hold honorary positions as professors on our staff without doing the same for the provincial institution.

I can see that difficulties also might arise in knowing how to select those who should be chosen as honorary professors, and that if they were associated too closely with the University trouble might arise from members of the staff of the University who might feel that they were preferred in honor before them.

At any rate, in the meantime, it seems to me that it would not



be wise for us to take action in the way that you mention.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

*Robert Palmer*

President.

Principal Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G.,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, Q.



President's Office.



October 18, 1929

My dear Sir Arthur:

I am glad to hear from you and hope that you are picking up all the time and will soon be thoroughly well again, and that everything is proceeding favourably with you. Next week you will have a busy time with the visit of the Prime Minister, just as we had, and I am sure that you will enjoy his address.

The suggestion that you make as to placing some of the senior members of the professional staff of the National Research Council as honorary professors in University Faculties raised some questions that one would like to consider pretty carefully before coming to a decision. Already we have Professor Huntsman, who is connected with the Biological Board of Canada, on our staff, but in the winter he spends a good deal of time in Toronto and occasionally gives advice as to research work that is being carried on in connection with Fisheries.

The situation with us is a little more difficult because alongside of the University there is now the Ontario Research Foundation controlled by a commission under the Government. A group of scientific men is being associated with these laboratories, and the probability is that the number will grow. It therefore is necessary for us to consider carefully where the first step would lead us. Assuredly we could not put on men from Ottawa without also putting on men from Toronto, and yet we do not wish so definitely to associate ourselves with the Ontario Research Council as to cut ourselves off in any way from co-operation with the Dominion Research Council.

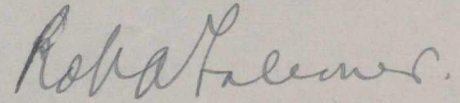


-2-

I will think the matter over and speak to some members of  
our staff about it and write you later.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Falcon Scott".

President.

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





NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL  
CANADA

DIVISION OF  
INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY  
G. S. WHITBY, DIRECTOR

OTTAWA

October 22nd 1929.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:

Thank you for your letter of October 14th, which I find awaiting me on my return from a trip to the West. I note that you expect to take some time in considering the question of an Honorary Professorship, and would say that there is no urgency whatever in regard to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

GSW:GES

Director.



October 14th, 1929.

Dr. G. S. Whitby,  
National Research Council,  
OTTAWA.

Dear Dr. Whitby:-

I should have acknowledged before this your letter of October 3rd, in which you put forward the suggestion that you might be made an Honorary Professor of McGill University.

There is a good deal involved in this matter and I would like a little more time to consider it before giving a definite decision. Somewhat similar recommendations came before the Graduate Faculty last year and were unfavourably received. However, as I said above, I would like further time before giving a definite answer.

All good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



October 26th, 1929.

Dr. G. S. Whitby,  
National Research Council,  
Ottawa.

Dear Dr. Whitby:-

The suggestion made in your letter of October 3rd has received the most careful consideration. You will, of course, realize that the plan involves many questions besides the possibility of establishing a desirable spirit of cooperation.

The European system is not, as you, of course, know, exactly parallel. The manner in which professors are appointed and universities operated differentiates the cases. In this country it is recognized that professors form an active part of a faculty and are subject to control, however, indefinite, by such bodies as faculties and corporations. I confess I do not see how we could meet the difficulty created by the appointment of members of the staff subject in no way to university authority. I am afraid, too, that even if I could see such a solution it would not be easy to pass the necessary amendments to the University constitution. This objection may be technical but it is, I fear, a very real one.

I find, moreover, that the feeling among the staffs of bodies such as that to which you now belong is by no means unanimously in favour of such a proposal as yours. The result of my inquiries, which, I may say, have been made without mentioning your name or position, has been to satisfy me that in many cases the holders of similar positions would rather be entirely



Dr. G. S. Whitby

- 2 -

free and that the project would meet with strong opposition from these quarters as well as from university staffs.

Under these conditions I think you will agree with me that it is better to take no action in the direction you propose.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.





NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL  
CANADA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OTTAWA November 2, 1929.

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal, McGill University,  
Montreal.

My dear Sir Arthur:

I have your letter of October 26th. It is just possible that the suggestion about the men who come to the Research Council from the universities continuing to hold honorary rank in their universities came from me, as I think I mentioned it as a possibility in conversation last year after my return from Europe, where that scheme is in practice and where the research work done in the research stations is accredited in the universities for higher degrees. You probably are aware that the same thing is true of the relationship between the Bureau of Standards at Washington and one or two of the universities.

If the statutes of the universities of Canada are not flexible enough to permit such arrangements, of course the suggestion cannot be carried out. I am confident, however, that there is sufficient flexibility in the statutes of some of the universities to allow such an arrangement, if it should become advisable.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. M. Brown', written in dark ink.

President.



October 26th, 1929.

Dr. H. M. Tory,  
Chairman, National Research Council,  
OTTAWA.

My dear Dr. Tory:-

A suggestion has recently been made to me that some mutual advantage would result if senior members of the professional staff of the National Research Council were appointed Honorary Professors in University faculties. In support of the proposal it is stated that in Europe honorary professorships in universities are given to men who are professionally qualified and occupied in research institutions.

Such a proposal obviously raises questions of great importance and must be considered in the light of general university policy. The European case is, of course, not parallel. I have consulted members of other university faculties, as well as my own staff, and the result of my inquiries has satisfied me that the project would not be of advantage to the Research Council or to the Universities. Your own experience will, I am sure, lead you to the same conclusion. The difficulties created by the appointment of professors who were in no way subject to any faculty or to Corporation are almost insuperable. I doubt, moreover, whether it would be possible to secure the necessary amendments to the University constitution. Difficulties on your side will doubtless be apparent to yourself.



Dr. H. M. Tory

- 2 -

I do not think, therefore, that it will be possible to follow up the suggestion which has been made and I am writing you now so that you may know that such a correspondence has been going on.

With all kind wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



October 26th, 1929.

Confidential.

Dr. F. M. G. Johnson,  
Director, Department of Chemistry,  
McGill University.

Dear Dr. Johnson:-

Referring to your letter of 10th  
of October and your comments on Dr. Whitby's proposal,  
I have now to inform you that I have told Dr. Whitby  
that his project involves difficulties which are, to  
my mind, insuperable.

I send you herewith a copy of  
my letter to him.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



PROFESSORS

F. M. G. JOHNSON, DIRECTOR

N. N. EVANS

O. MAASS

HAROLD HIBBERT

W. H. HATCHER

C. F. H. ALLEN

McGILL UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

MONTREAL, 10th October, 1929.

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal,  
McGill University.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I have received from you a letter from Dr. G.S. Whitby for comment.

The principle involved in Dr. Whitby's suggestion is not new. Dr. Whitby may remember that the Executive Committee of the Graduate Faculty proposed last winter that "other persons, whether members of this University or of other universities or institutions of scholarship or research, such as the Archive Department, Biological Stations, etc., may be elected members by the Faculty in full session upon proper notice of motion. Members who are not otherwise members of this University shall be designated 'Non-resident members'".

The Graduate Faculty refused to accept this proposal.

Under "Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)" in the Graduate Faculty Announcement, regulation 2 states "..... of these three years, at least one year for graduates of McGill and two years for candidates who are not graduates of McGill, must be spent at this University, including preferably the final year. The other years may be spent at institutions approved by the Faculty. Special exceptions regarding resident study may be made with the consent of the proper Divisional Committee and the Faculty".

It is



10-10-29.

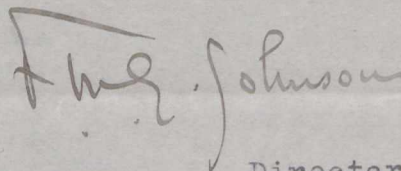
It is evident that if the Graduate Faculty gives its consent, individual students who wish to do so may work under the direction of Dr. Whitby or other member of the staff of the National Research Council. This, it seems to me, meets the case.

If the appointment of Dr. Whitby be made, are other similar appointments in the National Research Council and other Institutions to be made? The suggestion calls for a definite University policy, since other departments will also be concerned.

We of course wish to have a very close contact with the National Research Council and Dr. Whitby and his work, particularly in view of his relations to us in the past.

I believe, however, that the University would be ill-advised in making such an appointment without the most serious consideration of all its possible consequences in the future, e.g. other research institutions, such as the Archive Department, the Biological Stations, etc., might wish to have similar titles for members of their staffs. At the moment I as well as the other senior members of this staff consider such appointments undesirable.

Yours respectfully,



Director

FMGJ/JH

P.S.: - I returned Dr. Whitby's letter to you yesterday.

F.M.G.J.





NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL  
CANADA

DIVISION OF  
INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY  
G. S. WHITBY, DIRECTOR

OTTAWA October 3rd, 1929

Sir Arthur W. Currie,  
McGill University,  
MONTREAL, Que.

Dear Sir Arthur,-

As I mentioned in conversation the other day, it is a common practice in Europe to maintain contact between the larger Universities and the larger Research Institutions by appointing as Honorary Professors in the Universities certain men who have been on University staffs and have then taken up the work of directing Research Institutions. And it has occurred to me that possibly yourself and the Governors may feel inclined to establish a connection between McGill and the National Research Laboratories in Ottawa by appointing me as an Honorary Professor, of Chemistry.

I believe that the establishment of such a connection would be of mutual advantage to McGill and to the work of National Research in Canada. The National Research Council is profoundly interested in the training of Chemists in our Universities, especially in Research work, as it must look to the Universities to train in the methods of Research the men from whom its staff must be recruited. Its interest has already been amply demonstrated by the extensive system of Scholarships which it has established. With the completion of the \$3,000,000 Laboratories now in the course of erection, its demands for well-trained Research men will be very considerable.

As an Honorary Professor, I could maintain a valuable contact with the chemical training at McGill. I should be glad to give occasional individual lectures, or short courses of lectures on aspects of pure chemistry and on industrial chemistry, especially as applied to the development of Canadian resources. The work of the Graduate School in chemistry would also be facilitated, as it would be possible for graduate students to carry out in certain cases part of their thesis work in the Laboratories at Ottawa, if the Director of the Laboratories were on the McGill Faculty as an Honorary Professor. We, for our part, would benefit by the closer contact with the University and Research in pure science. I expect that several University Professors will join our staff, and, in order that the outlook in our Laboratories may be broader than a mere industrial one, we should appreciate an arrangement that would enable us to keep in touch with the admirable Graduate School in Chemistry at McGill.

Yours sincerely,

G. S. Whitby

P. J. O.



So. 107 <sup>Chimney</sup> Johns Top - and return

please.

8/10/79

hwL work

Qua fac. already turned down a  
similar idea.



October 15th, 1929.

Sir Robert Falconer, K.C.M.G., K.C.B.,  
President, University of Toronto,  
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Sir Robert:-

A suggestion has recently been made to me that some mutual advantage would result if senior members of the professional staff of the National Research Council were appointed Honorary Professors in University faculties. In support of the proposal it is stated that in Europe honorary professorships in universities are given to men who are professionally qualified and occupied in research institutions.

The question, I may say, comes up in connection with a specific case, but it seems to me that before any specific case can be discussed there is an important question of university policy to be decided. At the same time I feel that the matter is not one in which any university should stand alone. There are several points involved,- our relationship to the Research Council, the measure of control or lack of control over a member of that Council nominally on the University staff, the extent to which such a plan should be carried - in other words, are we to have honorary professors, honorary associate professors, etc.- the basis of selection, and so on. There are other points which, I have no doubt, will at once occur to yourself.

I am told that the European case is not quite parallel, in as much as Professorships are in the gift of the State and not granted by the universities



Sir Robert Falconer - 2 -

The Universities, therefore, are not expected to exercise any measure of control over the holder of such a title.

I shall be very grateful if you will give this matter your consideration and will welcome any suggestions you have to make on what is, without doubt, a most important subject.

With all kind wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



copy for Professor Johnson

August  
Twenty-third  
1929.

Professor G. S. Whitby,  
Chemistry and Mining Building.

Dear Professor Whitby:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your  
letter of August 10th.

As I wrote to you some time ago, we have assumed that you are giving up your Professorship at McGill and we have already taken steps to fill your place. One could scarcely wait to hear from you, in view of the fact that it appeared several times in the public Press that you were joining the staff of the National Research Department at Ottawa. I was also told that your furniture had already been moved to Ottawa. Having taken these steps I think you might have let me know your intentions sooner, for had I waited until the receipt of this letter of August 10th there would not be much time to fill your place before August 31st.

I am sorry to see you leave McGill, but what is our loss will be the gain of the National Research Organization.

I shall be pleased to see you when you return.

Yours faithfully,

Principal