



MCGILL UNIVERSITY

October 28th, 1932

The Principal.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I am informed by Dean Laird that the constitution of the Teachers' Training Committee is statutory and that I am not a member but only the secretary. Since Dean Laird's reports are always carefully typed, the duties of the secretary are extremely small and such duties might well, I think, be undertaken by one of the members of the Committee. If I felt that I could be of any real assistance to the Committee I should be very willing to remain as secretary but I do not so feel and unless you have any objection I should like to tender my resignation.

Yours sincerely,

J. H. Heatthend.

Registrar

November 24, 1932.

T. H. Matthews, Esq.,
Registrar.

Dear Mr. Matthews,

You will remember writing to me on October 8 stating that you would like to tender your resignation from the Teachers' Training Committee.

I find that Dean Laird is quite right in saying that the constitution of that Committee is statutory and that you are not a member, but only the Secretary.

It seems that at one time, when Dr. Nicholson was Secretary, the Committee was much more active and he was paid \$100 for his services. When his salary was raised twelve years ago he said he considered it unnecessary to receive this pay and that he would gladly undertake the duties of Secretary without pay. That was one of the legacies he left to you.

At the next meeting of the Committee, to be called only when Dean Laird and myself consider it necessary, I shall place your resignation before the Committee.

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal

Budget

May 19th, 1933.

Memorandum to Mr. Glasco:

Re School for Teachers: I am afraid the budget for this School must stand, unless a cut is made in Teachers' Salaries. ⁱⁿ
The appropriations call for about \$3000/addition to the Salaries, one-third of which is made up of a charge of \$5 for laboratory fees. We have doubled this fee, making it \$10 per student, which means that the student will pay two-thirds of the cost of running the School outside the Teachers' Salaries. We are precluded from charging fees by the legal agreement we have with the Protestant Commission.

Next year a laboratory fee for intermediate students will be \$10.00 and for those in the elementary class \$5 00.

School of Household Science: I am enclosing herewith budget, which is, I think, about the best that can be done.

AWC:DM

Percival commends school.

Department of Education
Quebec, P. Q.

HON. CYRILLE F. DELAGE
SUPERINTENDENT

W. P. PERCIVAL

ENGLISH SECRETARY, DEPUTY
MINISTER OF THE DEPARTMENT,
AND DIRECTOR OF PROTESTANT
EDUCATION.

When replying please give
at the head of your letter
this number.

No.

Replies should be addressed
to "The Superintendent of
Education, Quebec, P. Q."

LIONEL BERGERON

FRENCH SECRETARY AND
DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE
DEPARTMENT.

October 23rd, 1933.

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

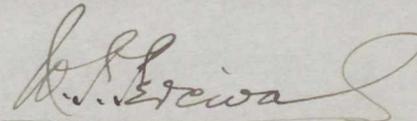
Dear Sir:-

I have the honour to inform you that I was
present at Macdonald College on October 18th to 20th.
While there I visited the classroom of the Dean and
of every member of the staff of the School for Teach-
ers during the lecture periods.

The reception accorded me was excellent, and
the spirit of the staff is one of co-operation.

The methods of teaching are modern, and there
is a uniformity of philosophy and psychology that is
commendable.

Yours truly,



Director of
Protestant Education.

Z/B

October 25, 1933.

Dr. W.P. Percival,
Director of Protestant Education,
Department of Education,
Quebec, Que.

My dear Dr. Percival,

Let me thank you very much for your letter in which you are kind enough to give me an appreciation of the methods of teaching and the spirit of the staff in the School for Teachers. I am sure that Dean Laird always does his best to promote our mutual interests, sometimes under difficult conditions.

With all kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

Percival commends School

MACDONALD COLLEGE

McGILL UNIVERSITY

RAILWAY STATIONS AND EXPRESS:

STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:

MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

October 23, 1933.

Sir Arthur W. Currie,
Principal & Vice-Chancellor,
McGill University,
Montreal, Que.

Dear Sir Arthur:

There are several items of information which may be of interest to you.

1. Inspector Cattermull of the Gaspé district, at Dr. Percival's request and by his arrangement, spent several days at the School for Teachers from October 10th to 13th.

2. Dr. W. P. Percival, Director of Protestant Education, paid an official visit to the School for Teachers and inspected our work, from Oct. 18th to 20th inclusive.

He stated that he intended to write a report to you on what he saw, but as far as I could make out, he was pleased.

3. As I have already informed you it is my intention, with your approval, to visit some of the Intermediate Schools with Inspector Billings who made a report to the Protestant Committee on Friday, Sept. 29th. If arrangements can be made, I shall go with him by car on Wednesday afternoon to as many as possible of these schools in the Eastern Townships for two days. I may, therefore, be absent until Saturday morning, October 28th.

4. Mr. T. Cuddihy, Director of Studies for the English-speaking Catholic Schools in Montreal, has asked permission to bring one hundred of his preparatory and first year teachers to Macdonald College on Friday afternoon, November 10th, to see our Practice School and our work in Primary Methods. Mr. Cuddihy is very anxious that his teachers should have the benefit of the work of Miss Ramsay and of our high school teachers in these two grades.

5. Nearly all the Staff of the School for Teachers and several of our high school teachers were engaged in giving papers or demonstrations at the Teachers' Convention. I think there were no fewer than eighteen addresses given by our Staff.

6. On account of conflict of engagements, I have not yet been able to find a suitable date for the first meeting of the Teachers' Training Committee. I would like to know whether Friday afternoon, November 3rd, would be suitable for you. Will you please let me know so that I can make the necessary arrangements with Mr. Matthews for calling the meeting at 2.45 p.m. or 3.00 p.m.

Yours faithfully,

Frederick Land

Dean,
School for Teachers.

HB

October 25, 1933.

Dean Sinclair Laird,
School for Teachers,
Macdonald College, P. Que.

My dear Dean Laird,

Let me thank you for your letter of
October 23rd. The same mail brought me a letter from
Dr. Percival in which he says,

"The reception accorded me was excellent,
and the spirit of the staff is one of co-operation.

The methods of teaching are modern, and there
is a uniformity of philosophy and psychology that
is commendable."

With regard to your last paragraph,
the afternoon of Friday, November 3rd, would be as suitable
as any other time you could name for me to meet the Teachers'
Training Committee. I am particularly busy for the next
two weeks, but we must try to fit it in somehow if the
meeting is absolutely necessary.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

Report 1921-30

R E P O R T

O N

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS, MACDONALD COLLEGE.

1921 - 1930.

by Dean Sinclair Laird.

REPORT ON SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS FOR DECADE
1921 - 1930.

When the McGill Normal School was transferred to Macdonald College, it was the purpose of the founder and benefactor of Macdonald College to advance the cause of education through the training of teachers, so that children might have better schools, especially in rural communities.

All Quebec protestant teachers with Kindergarten, Elementary, and Intermediate diplomas are trained in the School for Teachers, Macdonald College. It is, therefore, highly important that the work of the School for Teachers should be adequate to justify the purposes of the founder, and to satisfy the needs of the community.

Number of Teachers Trained.

In the decade, 1921 - 1930, the School for Teachers has actually sent out from its walls more than 2,000 teachers with diplomas, an average of more than 200 a year, as shown in the following table:-

TABLE 1.

Diplomas issued from 1920-21 to 1929-30.
- - - - -

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Inter- mediate.</u>	<u>Elementary 1st Class.</u>	<u>Elementary Short Course.</u>	<u>Kindergarten Director.</u>	<u>Kindergarten Assistant.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1920-21	91	5	49	1	5	151
1921-22	96	17	51	2	6	172
1922-23	144	29	68	-	5	246
1923-24	153	31	79	4	4	271
1924-25	152	29	80	1	3	265
1925-26	133	26	62	1	2	224
1926-27	108	31	87	1	1	228
1927-28	119	31	70	-	3	223
1928-29	113	20	33	3	3	172
1929-30	100	8	37	3	1	149
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	1209	227	616	16	33 =	<u>2101</u>

Of the 227 teachers with first class Elementary diplomas, 163 afterwards succeeded in obtaining Intermediate diplomas. However, practically all these students did some teaching in rural schools while they possessed an Elementary diploma, and thus rendered service to the community as Elementary teachers. It is thus quite fair to include them in the grand total, which is 2101.

Origin of Students.

All our students come from the Province of Quebec, and are destined to teach in Quebec. In fact, if they wish to become teachers, they must attend Macdonald College to obtain Kindergarten, Elementary, and Intermediate diplomas.

It is interesting to note that slightly more than fifty per cent of teachers come from the Province of Quebec outside the Island of Montreal.

In the last ten years, 55.5 per cent came from the rest of the Province, and 44.5 per cent from the Island of Montreal.

Improvements.

There have been four notable advances in the education of future teachers.

1. A higher standard for obtaining a high school leaving certificate, or a matriculation certificate for admission to the Intermediate Class.
 2. A higher standard for admission to the Elementary Class.
 3. The requirement of a medical certificate for admission.
 4. The improvement of the training by the addition of courses in primary methods.
1. The school leaving certificate can only be won by

obtaining 50 per cent in each subject, and 50 per cent in the total, instead of 40 per cent, as formerly.

The university matriculation certificate requires 60 per cent of the total, and not less than 40 per cent in any one subject. It is unfortunate that there is this double standard for the same examination, as some students pass in matriculation, and fail in the school leaving certificate, and vice versa. For the school leaving certificate no-one may come below 50 per cent, and for the matriculation certificate, all must reach 60 per cent in the average.

2. Students were formerly admitted to the Elementary Class before Christmas if they had passed Grade 9, and attended Grade 10 until Christmas, or taught school until Christmas. Now the possession of a certificate of having passed Grade 10 is required from all applicants to the Elementary Class.

3. A medical certificate similar to that required from candidates for the Civil Service or for life insurance is exacted from all applicants for admission to courses leading to diplomas valid in Protestant schools. In consequence, many students suffering from various disabilities are deterred from applying; and candidates suffering from ill health, deformities, and infirmities are rejected, if their disabilities are such as to

be detrimental to their work as teachers. This medical requirement has probably reduced the number of students, but in the long run will tend to improve the physical fitness of teachers, to reduce the necessity and overhead expense of providing substitute teachers, and to lengthen the career of those who enter the profession.

This action on the part of the Protestant Committee of the Council of Education was drawn by the Pension Commission to the attention of the Roman Catholic Committee of the Council. The Catholic Committee immediately took steps to exact the same requirements for Catholic teachers in the Province of Quebec.

The Pension Commission hopes that in future it will have fewer applications from teachers who desire a pension on the ground of illhealth, and disability, after 20 years service.

All of the three improvements, mentioned above, naturally affect the attendance which has been reduced somewhat in recent years, and will continue to remain smaller than usual, until school boards recognize the improvement in the teaching personnel, and pay salaries high enough to encourage desirable candidates to prepare themselves for the profession.

4. The fourth main improvement has been the organization and unification of primary methods in charge of one member of the staff, instead of having such methods scattered over several courses of lectures. The consequence of this step has been to alter entirely the attitude of the student body. Formerly, there was a tendency to prefer work in the senior departments; now very many student teachers are definitely determined to devote themselves to primary teaching, which is of such fundamental importance for the super-structure afterwards laid by teachers in the upper grades.

This is a decided improvement, which has been gratefully acknowledged and commended by Superintendents, Inspectors, and others in touch with school work.

Costs.

It is a fixed policy on the part of the authorities responsible for the School for Teachers to appoint only the highest type of teacher and instructor, with the necessary special training, and successful experience.

As in ordinary schools, the high calibre of the staff is the determining element in the success of the instruction and training.

Table 2.

Year ending June.	<u>INCOME</u>			<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>			
	School for Teachers. Fees & Grants.	Practice School. Fees & Grants.	<u>TOTAL</u>	School for Teachers Salaries and Supplies.	Practice School Salaries & Supplies.	Overhead.	<u>TOTAL</u>
1921	10,655	7,774	18,429	25,980	10,886	17,511	54,377
1922	10,736	10,327	21,063	26,801	14,378	17,434	58,613
1923	11,035	12,045	23,080	26,400	13,297	15,226	54,923
1924	11,257	11,950	23,207	26,791	15,083	16,037	57,911
1925	1,332	11,493	12,826	28,346	15,053	15,669	59,070
1926	1,287	11,557	12,845	28,238	15,730	15,641	59,611
1927	945	13,166	14,111	28,271	16,434	18,303	63,009
1928	15,967	14,232	30,200	28,027	17,420	21,098	66,547
1929	25,785	14,217	40,002	29,050	19,261	20,071	68,384
1930	15,735	14,225	29,960	30,451	21,218	20,941	72,610

In the column marked "overhead" the Bursar includes proportion of cost of administration, buildings, maintenance, library and reading room, gymnasium and grounds, light, heat, power and water, etc., etc.,

In connection with expenses, supplies have remained fairly constant; the chief item is salaries. There have been no additions to the staff in the School for Teachers itself, but there have been additional teachers appointed in the practice school.

The increased costs, therefore, are due to additional staff in the practice school, increased salaries to instructors in the School for Teachers, and to teachers in the practice school, in accordance with prevailing scales, especially in Montreal.

Another increased cost has been the increasing charge for "overhead".

NEEDS.

1. The most pressing need is an addition to the practice school to afford more satisfactory conditions, particularly accommodation for practice teaching, as well as to provide room for the increasing number of pupils now at our disposal for this purpose.

Under the present circumstances, the staff are very much handicapped with experiments they would like to carry on in several directions, for example:-

1. Rural and graded organizations.
 2. Experiments in special subjects.
 3. Experiments in individual work.
 4. Experiments in rates of promotion.
 5. Experiments with objective tests.
2. A summer school for the further training of teachers in service, particularly those with Elementary and Intermediate diplomas. An enquiry into the ways and means of carrying on such a summer school with the co-operation of the Department of Education is now being carried on.
 3. Higher salaries for the staff of the School for Teachers, and the teachers in the practice school.

These will be necessary to retain the efficient members of the staff, and to provide for increases of salary similar to those granted on the Montreal scale to teachers in elementary schools. The present lecturers in the

School for Teachers are receiving less than they would receive as Principals of Elementary schools with the same length of service.

4. A self contained staff.

Some members of the staff of the School for Teachers are giving services in other schools. In some cases, the arrangement is not satisfactory -

A. In the case of Art, because of the different qualifications required to teach school art, household furnishings, and costume design.

B. Dr.Brunt has on two occasions made formal application to be relieved from lecturing in the School of Agriculture. I am willing to recommend this relief for Dr.Brunt, for the following reasons:-

- a. He has too much work to do it all satisfactorily.
- b. There is a sufficient amount of work for him in the School for Teachers.
- c. More correction of English exercises, and more supervision of practice teaching could be done by Dr.Brunt if his energy were entirely at the disposal of the School for Teachers.
- d. Should illhealth or temporary sickness prevent Dr.Brunt from attending to his duties for a short or long period, there is no one here to take his place.

This situation is generally true in the School for Teachers. We have plenty of work for each Instructor, but no substitute available for an emergency, such as sickness or disability.

64 new students

MACDONALD COLLEGE

McGILL UNIVERSITY

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

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

December 22, 1932.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,

At the meeting of the Protestant Central Board of Examiners on Tuesday forenoon, December 20th, the new admissions were made to the Intermediate and Elementary classes.

Five women and two men students were admitted to the Intermediate Class commencing in January, in order to complete their courses. This adds seven to the number of students in the Intermediate Class.

In the Elementary Class sixty-four students were admitted, namely, fifty-nine women and five men. This is the largest class that has ever been admitted to a short course, and perhaps the size is accounted for by the fact that twenty-six women were left over from last September, and were refused admission last September on account of lack of space. This class of sixty-four rural teachers is going to be a very hard one to handle, especially for practice teaching. It is also going to be hard to accommodate in the residence.

Four men and ten women were sent home by me on account of poor work in teaching. I may send home some more *after the* results of examinations, which however I will not receive from the staff until after the Christmas holidays.

I have already given this information to Mr. Ward in connection with the boarding accommodation, but I thought I would send it to you also so that you will know the pressure being put on the School for Teachers through large applications, and admissions, especially in view of a conference between the Department and the University authorities.

I have already started a committee to devise means of improving the practice teaching for these sixty-four new students in the Elementary Class.

I know we have your sympathy in our problems.

Yours faithfully,

Eric Crawford
Dean.

KC.

Memus,
Victoria Place,
Airdrie.

Lanarkshire,
Scotland.

22nd Sept. 1932.

Sir A. W. Currie.

Dear Sir,

You will no doubt remember me as last year's "Exchange Student" to McGill. I had intended calling upon you when in Montreal on my way home, but my time there was too short.

Since my return last month I have been on the quest for a teaching position here, but the situation is practically hopeless & all I have been able to obtain was a temporary position for four weeks. Now I understand that the numbers at Macdonald College are considerably increased this year, so I take the liberty of asking whether there is any possibility of a position as assistant to Dr.

Memus,

Victoria Place,

Airdrie.

Brent, who will this year have the work with which I assisted last year as well as an increase in the amount of his own work. I could also assist Mr. Lockhart with the course in the history of Education, some of which I did for him last year.

I am writing to Dr. Brent by this mail, so if you can do anything in the matter you could get into communication with him and he in turn could let me know.

I may say that I shall be very grateful indeed if you can arrange any such position for me.

I am,

Yours respectfully,
David Lees.

David Lees - student

October 1, 1932.

David Lees, Esq.,
Memus,
Victoria Place,
Airdrie, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

Dear Mr. Lees,

I have your letter of the 22nd and note the difficulty you have experienced in securing a teaching position. I have not received from Dr. Brunt any request for additional staff, but will have pleasure in discussing the matter with him if the question is raised. I hope it won't be long before you are congenially placed.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

Music Convention Cleveland

MACDONALD COLLEGE

McGILL UNIVERSITY

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

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

March 26, 1932.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,

I am very anxious to attend the Music Supervisors Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, for which I would have to leave next Friday.

I planned to attend the last one two years ago in Chicago, but circumstances prevented me from going.

Mr. Stanton, Supervisor of Music in Montreal is being sent by the Montreal Protestant School Board, and Mr. James Small, Montreal West, is being sent by Montreal West School Board. I am also very anxious to attend as they not only have a rural school section, but an Elementary school section, and a National High School section, and a National High School Orchestra. Mr. Gustav Holst, Mr. Walter Damrosch, Dr. Ernest MacMillan of Toronto and others are on the programme.

These conferences are held every second year, and I have always been unable to attend one. I am anxious to do so as the Americans are very much ahead of us in Canada in this subject, and I would like to know what we can possibly do to improve our work here.

The cost would be around \$100. If it is more I would pay the difference myself, and if it is less of course less will be charged.

I earnestly hope that the University will make it possible for me to attend on this occasion as there will not be another for, at least, two years.

Yours faithfully,

Inclan Land

Dean.

KC.

March 29, 1932.

T. Fred Ward, Esq.,
Bursar,
Macdonald College, P. Que.

Dear Mr. Ward,

With reference to Dean Sinclair Laird's
application for an allowance to assist him in attending the
Music Supervisors Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, next month,
I am agreeable if you can find the money.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

Proposed summer school

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

6th June, 1930.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,

I enclose herewith a copy of correspondence concerning a possible summer school at Macdonald College for the benefit of teachers in 1931.

I thought it wise to put in my reply to Mr. Heslam some disclaimer of the responsibility for providing funds for such a course, and also some warning that a considerable sum would be involved, if the school is to be worthwhile. I do not know what step should be taken short of an appeal to the Department of Education, and the Protestant Committee, but probably that matter can wait until after the Teachers Convention in October, 1930, unless you think it would be best to bring it up at the next meeting of the Protestant Committee on the last Friday in September.

Yours faithfully,

J. McLeanland

KC.

Dean.

6th June, 1930.

Mr. Gordon H. Heslam,
5449, University Street,
MONTREAL. Que.,

Dear Mr. Heslam,

Your letter addressed to the Registrar has been forwarded to me, and I have sent a copy of it to Sir Arthur Currie, with my own comments.

I think it only fair to state that a summer school will cost a considerable sum of money, and there are several conditions which those who ask for the summer school, and those who provide it, must consider:-

1. The school naturally must be under our auspices, but preferably also jointly with the Department of Education of the Province of Quebec.
2. Funds should be provided for this summer school, and in my opinion they should be provided by the Department of Education of the Province, or from the Protestant Committee's funds.
3. The most suitable time for a summer school would be during the weeks that the summer school for rural clergymen is held at Macdonald College. This would be the most suitable time for providing board and lodging.
4. The staff of such a school should be appointed jointly by the College, and the Department, if the Department meets the cost of the course.
5. Satisfactory remuneration will have to be provided for the Instructors, whether they are members of the College staff, or outsiders.
6. Board and lodging should be paid by the students, and probably a fee should be charged for each class, or for the total course.
7. If arrangements are to be made for 1931, they should be commenced early, and, therefore, funds will have to be secured early, as the financial success will be a speculation, even if a fee is charged.
8. I understand from those who interviewed me that Primary Methods is one of the subjects they wish. I would like to

6th June, 1930.

Mr. Gordon H. Heslam.

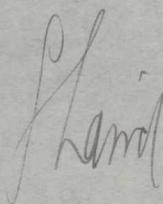
state, however, that Miss Ramsay whom you had in mind as a Lecturer will probably be in Great Britian next summer, as she intends to visit some training centres. Probably, therefore, she will not be available.

I feel that if this summer school is to be a success, the first thing to do is to arrange for its financial support, and then choose the subjects, and Lecturers who would be most favoured by teachers.

I also think the school should be a serious endeavour, and not a mere holiday in congenial surroundings.

I am also sending a copy of this letter to Sir Arthur Currie.

Yours faithfully,



KC.

Dean.

Copy of a letter from

Provincial Association of Protestant
Teachers of Quebec,

3449, University St.,
Montreal. Que.,

May 30th, 1930.

The Registrar,
Macdonald College,
Que.,

Dear Sir,

I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers of Quebec to forward to you the following resolution which was passed at the May Meeting.

"It is resolved that the Executive Committee of the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers of Quebec approach the proper authorities with a view to securing a Summer School at Macdonald College to be held in the summer of 1931".

Mr. J. G. Samson, Convener of the Status of Teachers Committee of the P. A. P. T. has already approached the authorities and has discussed with them the nature of the course which is desired by the teachers of the Province.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd) Gordon H. Heslam.

Corr-Sec. P. A. P. T.

June 7th, 1930.

Dean Sinclair Laird,
Macdonald College, P. Q.

Dear Dean Laird,

I have your letter of
yesterday to which was attached correspondence with
Mr. Gordon Heslam.

I fully agree with your
reply to him. While I believe a Summer School would
be useful, I regret to say that this University has
no funds for such a purpose. We shall be pleased
to co-operate in any way we can, other than bearing any
portion of the cost.

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.

Closings

MACDONALD COLLEGE

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

McGILL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

Confidential.

June 3, 1932.

Mrs. D. McMurray,
Secretary to Principal,
McGill University,
Montreal. Que.,

Dear Mrs. McMurray,

I received your confidential letter of June 2, and have shown it to Miss Philp.

Miss Philp and I will print our programme in such a way that Sir Arthur Currie will not be required to do anything except preside. He will not be expected to make any address or any remarks; that part of the usual programme will be eliminated.

We shall be delighted, however, if Sir Arthur is able to come to the closings, and preside, as usual.

Yours faithfully,

Finlayson

KC.

Dean.

June 2nd, 1932.

Dean Sinclair Laird,
Macdonald College, P.Q.

Confidential

Dear Dean Laird,

I am writing to say that Sir Arthur is not very well. There is nothing wrong, except that he is tired out with the strain of the past two months and when he saw his doctor today he insisted upon a cancellation of all engagements for public functions for the month of June. I know that he intends to come to Macdonald for the closing, but this is to ask you to make it as easy for him as possible and not to call upon him to speak at all. He does not want anything made of this, as he is not really ill. But he will not let up, until the doctor insists.

Ever yours faithfully,

Secretary to the Principal.

Will you please share this letter with Miss Philp.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:

STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:

MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

1st June, 1931.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,

*Daylight
Time.*
I am writing to inform you that the Closing Exercises of the School for Teachers will take place on Thursday afternoon, June 11th, at 2.45 p.m. in the College Assembly Hall. As usual, I am relying upon you to preside, and to make some remarks.

Dr. Percival has consented to give the main address, after the presentation of diplomas. As this is his first appearance at the end of the term, he will have a little more latitude on this occasion.

I am now feeling much better, and have been allowed up. The Doctors assure me that I shall be able to be at the Central Board meeting, and the Closing Exercises, but unfortunately I shall be unable to go to Quebec this week for the various sub-committee meetings, and the meeting of the Protestant Committee.

Yours faithfully,

J. Macdonald

Dean.

KC.

June 1, 1931.

Dean Sinclair Laird,
Macdonald College, P. Q.

My dear Dean,

Thank you for your note of yesterday,
which contains the welcome news that you are feeling
much better.

Certainly I shall go to the Closing
Exercises of the School for Teachers on June 11th.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

P.S. I am sorry I have not seen anything to
intimate that you have drawn a winner
in the Calcutta Sweep.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

16th December, 1929.

Sir Arthur Currie,
McGill University,
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur,

The Closing Exercises of the Elementary Class will be held in the Women's residence on Thursday, December 19th, at 2.45pm. Dr. Parmelee has consented to present the diplomas, and we are looking forward to your presenting the prizes. The time has been fixed so that you yourself, and others who are coming from Montreal, may take the 1.30pm train, and after the arrival of the train in St. Annes have time to attend the meeting.

As I said before it will be held very informally in the Women's residence, probably in the piano alcove, beside the reception room. The students wish to sing some carols before they go, and tea will be provided under the auspices of the Macdonald Women's Union in the reception room. The whole affair will be very informal and simple; we are not wearing gowns and hoods; and there will be no speeches, except perhaps my own very brief report.

I shall be glad to see you in my Office on the arrival of the train.

Yours faithfully,

J. Macdonald

KC.

Dean.

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1.05*

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MACDONALD COLLEGE

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

2nd December, 1929.

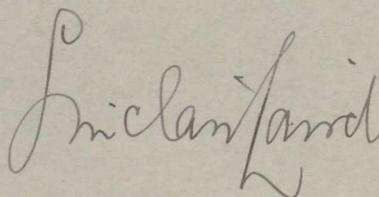
Sir Arthur Currie,
McGill University,
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I regret very much that there was an error in my letter regarding the date of the Closing exercises for the Elementary Class in the School for Teachers. My letter read "Friday, December 19th". It should read "Thursday, December 19th".

I would be obliged if you would make a note of this corrected date, and I assure you we are delighted to know that you will see your way to be present.

Yours faithfully,



KC.

Dean.

November 29th, 1929.

Dean S. Laird,
MacDonald College.

Dear Dean Laird,

I have your letter of the
twenty-eighth with reference to the function
to be held in the Women's Residence at MacDonald
College on the afternoon of "Friday, December 19th".

I shall be pleased to attend,
but if a speech of any length is required, please
make arrangements with somebody else to give it.

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal.

P.S. Will you kindly let me know whether this
function is to be held on Thursday, December
19th, or on Friday, December 20th?

MACDONALD COLLEGE

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:

STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:

MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

28th November, 1929.

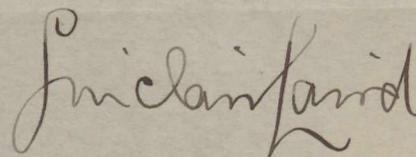
Principal Sir Arthur Currie,
McGill University,
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur,

We are arranging to have the distribution of prizes and diplomas for the Elementary class on Friday afternoon December 19th, at 2.30 or 2.45 pm. This year we propose to have an informal distribution in the Women's residence in the reception room or the piano alcove, with tea for the students, staff, and the few relatives of students who will come, in the reception room afterwards. I am writing to ask if you will be able to attend, and preside at this rather informal function. It will not be necessary to make a long speech, and if you will even consent to congratulate the students, and distribute the prizes, we shall be very pleased, indeed.

I hope your health will be sufficiently recovered to enable you to honour us with your presence on that occasion.

Yours faithfully,



Dean.

KC

MACDONALD COLLEGE

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

May 14, 1928.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:

I received your letter of May 10th telling me that you would be unable to attend any ceremonies in the month of June. I am writing at once to say how sorry I am that you will not be able to attend and also how much more sorry I am for the cause which has led your medical advisers to suggest that you should drop all work because of your physical condition.

I sincerely trust that you will have a long and refreshing holiday and that your health will be completely restored.

We shall do our best to carry on the various functions to your satisfaction and I presume that in the absence of any instruction from you I shall preside myself at our Closing Exercises.

With best wishes for a good rest and complete recovery, I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. McLean

Dean.

B.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

5th May, 1930.

Sir Arthur Currie,
McGill University,
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I am merely writing to remind you that the School for Teachers Closing Exercises will take place on Thursday afternoon, June 5th. I am hoping that you will see your way to preside, and to make some remarks to the students.

You will remember that I have already asked Principal Smythe to address the students after the presentation of prizes.

This letter will serve to remind you of the date, which I trust you will keep free for us, if it is at all possible.

Yours faithfully,

Smickland

KC.

Dean.

May 8th, 1930.

Dean Sinclair Laird,
Macdonald College.

Dear Dean Laird,

I have your letter of the
5th May reminding me of the Closing Exercises
of the School for Teachers on Thursday afternoon,
June 5th. I have made a note of the date and
hope to be able to come.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

Inter-department Correspondence



PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR:
SIR ARTHUR W. CURRIE, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.

FROM
THE PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR,
MCGILL UNIVERSITY,
MONTREAL.

June 2, 1933.

Dean Sinclair Laird,
Macdonald College P.O., P. Q.

Dear Dean Laird,

The Principal asks me to say that
he will be present at the Closing Exercises on Thursday,
June 8th. It is doubtful whether Lady Currie will
accompany him.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary to the Principal

MACDONALD COLLEGE

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

10th January, 1930.

Sir Arthur Currie,
McGill University,
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur,

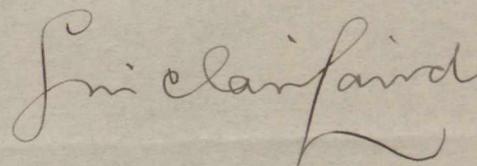
I regretted very much to be obliged to carry on with my work in practice teaching in Montreal yesterday, and, therefore, missed seeing you.

All our Intermediate students are doing a week's practice teaching, 57 of them in Montreal, in about 14 schools. The work is so important that all the members of the staff who criticise teaching are visiting schools in Montreal to help and criticise the work done by students, many of them being in full charge of classes.

If you wish, however, I shall be very glad to come to your Office any time next week, except Monday afternoon. I shall be at McGill University in any case on Friday afternoon in order to lecture to the fourth year students in 2nd term, in place of Professor Clarke, who is going to hospital.

Should you, therefore, desire to see me then, or at an early date, I shall be glad to come to Montreal and see you.

Yours faithfully,



KC.

Dean.

Lectures

MACDONALD COLLEGE

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

Oct. 18, 1927.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:

I understand that Mr. Alfred Noyes, the poet, is to be in Montreal next week and will be visiting McGill University. Is there any chance of having him visit Macdonald College and speak to our students? We are far away from the usual route and miss a great many opportunities of meeting famous men. Some day, I would like to have an opportunity of discussing with you some means of ameliorating this condition, but meantime I am writing to suggest that it would be a great favour if some means could be found to have Mr. Noyes visit the College.

Yours faithfully,

John Macdonald

B.

Dean.

October 19th, 1927.

Dean Sinclair Laird,
Macdonald College, Que.

Dear Dean Laird:-

I beg to acknowledge your
letter of October 18th with reference to the
visit of Mr. Alfred Noyes.

I shall try to make
satisfactory arrangements regarding a visit to
Macdonald College.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

Staff Death of Miss Price

MACDONALD COLLEGE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:

STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:

MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

July 18, 1929.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:

I understood from Dean Barton that you wished to see me before I went West on my tour. I called at your office on Saturday morning, July 13th, either to see you or to make arrangements for an interview. I also arranged with Colonel Bovey to make arrangements and Mrs. Chesley was to telephone me this week. However, on telephoning again today, I find that it may not be possible for me to see you before leaving on Sunday, July 21st, and I am therefore giving you some information regarding our difficulties arising out of the tragedy whereby Miss Mabel D. Price, Lecturer in History & Geography, lost her life by drowning on June 23rd.

Miss Price was almost irreplaceable because of her knowledge and skill. She was one of the most efficient instructors for her position that we could possibly have found and I was very proud of her success both in her work and with her colleagues and students.

As you know, contracts cannot be broken after June 1st and therefore I am in a very difficult position. Several of those to whom I have spoken and who might have been free are either unwilling to tackle the work or could not find their release from their engagements.

Secondly, Dr. Gammell who, I thought, might be able to help out during his first year of retirement, would lose his pension if he undertook our work, and besides he is going for a tour of the west and will not return until the end of September. I fear, therefore, that temporary filling of the position for next year is out of the question.

Another arrangement that might have been possible cannot be worked out. I have also had an application from a former Ontario teacher now studying at Columbia University but she is not qualified for all the subjects we are requiring.

Another teacher who could do at least three quarters of the work next year, Miss Jessie Norris, Apt. 6, 6004 Sherbrooke St., W., Montreal, is a teacher in Montreal West and on that account is entitled, after every ten years of service, to one year's leave of absence. She could probably take her year's leave of absence but her present salary is greater than the increased salary we were to pay the late Miss Price for next year, whose salary would have been \$1,900. Miss Norris is at present receiving \$2,150 and would have to be paid even more at Macdonald College. Besides she would like some information before August 1st. *So she is not really being considered.* *JD*

I have also been in communication with Dr. Parmelee and have likewise seen him personally in Quebec. We have canvassed the whole situation and believe that we may have to persuade three or perhaps four of our present staff members to undertake extra work in subjects which are not their own so as to carry on for next year. Dr. Parmelee is willing to countenance such an arrangement in view of the emergency and to avoid a hasty appointment with the risk of a misfit. Should we decide finally to call upon extra efforts from other members of the staff, I would require authority to offer them some extra honorarium or bonus for the next session, but would, of course, not do so without seeing you and discussing the matter thoroughly before taking this action.

These facts are presented for your information and consideration so that I may have an opportunity of discussing them with you either now or in the middle of August. At present I am at my wits end, but feel sure you will grant every consideration to our difficulty that is in your power.

Trusting that you will have a pleasant holiday in Strathroy, I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. McLeanland
Dean.

B.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

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

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

July 18, 1929.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:

I am enclosing a copy of a
letter I am sending to Dr. Parmelee with regard to
the difficulties in which I am placed for next year.
The letter, I think, explains
itself.

Yours faithfully,

J. Macdonald

Dean.

B.

July 18, 1929.

Dr. G. W. Parmelee,
Department of Education,
Quebec, P. Que.

Dear Dr. Parmelee:

I have been consulting ever since my arrival home from Quebec City, and am not any further forward with possible temporary assistance for next year than I was when I saw you. There is, however, a suggestion which I am submitting to you not in the shape of a recommendation but merely as a suggestion.

It is that the tragic drowning of Miss Price in mid summer and the apparent utter impossibility of obtaining satisfactory replacement for next year, might make the Board consider a proposal that all the elementary students should come to College for the second short course elementary class and that for next year the first short course might be abandoned for one year.

I know there are numerous objections to this procedure.

1. The Protestant Central Board of Examiners through their bulletin of information have committed themselves to the usual two courses, one before Christmas and one after. This, of course, is natural on account of our staff and the size of the classes normally.
2. Perhaps the number of applications for the second short course is too great to allow the elementary students to be handled in one course this year.
3. Perhaps the number of those who desire to take the first course is too great to refuse them admission to that course and to compel them to join the second.
4. Some may have applied for the first term in the expectation of continuing their education after school without a break and of teaching during the second term.
5. Others may have arranged to teach the first term correspondingly and are expecting a teacher to obtain a diploma at Christmas to replace them after Christmas.

6. Perhaps this would be a bad precedent for future years.
7. Perhaps the waiting period between the high school examinations for Grade 10 in June and the second short course might cause a loss of candidates who would prefer to take Grade 11 at school and we might lose them for the elementary class this year though possibly we might gain them for the intermediate class next year.
8. Neither the Board nor the College would wish to do anything which would reduce through this action the number of teachers available for our rural schools. It must, of course, be the first consideration of the Board.

The advantages, however, would be:

1. If the number of candidates is small, we might conveniently take them altogether, e.g., last year's class could from this point of view have been handled economically in this manner although I know that through the raising of the standard the candidates who normally would have been here last year are likely to be candidates this year.
2. The relief from our first short course would set the Staff free for the first term to take the history and geography. As you know, their hours are very completely filled up at present but this action would set the elementary class periods free and would enable one or more of them to take the extra work in history and geography.
3. There is a possibility that we might use the elementary class periods for practice teaching in the High School for more intensive practice teaching with the intermediate class before Christmas.

I know that there is little time left for consulting as my absence on the tour "Across Canada and Back" July 22nd to August 13th prevents me from being present at the Board meeting, and your impending visit to England for two months commencing August 1st makes any action you will take at the meeting of the Protestant Central Board of Examiners a rather hasty one perhaps, but I am passing up this suggestion for your earnest consideration in view of this regrettable emergency. I shall be at the College until Sunday evening, July 21st, and can be reached by telephone or telegram for any further information. At present I am at my wits end and although I know that I would have every support at the University for temporary and emergent help, I feel rather hopeless about securing any.

Any other information can be got after July 21st from Mr. Lockhart who will be at the College until my return from Victoria.

Yours faithfully,

J. McLean Land
Dean.

B.

NORMAL TRAINING NOT REQUIRED NOW

Nova Scotia Announces That Teachers Need Have Uni- versity Course Only

Halifax, September 29.—A statement was issued Saturday from the Department of Education, under the newly-appointed superintendent, Dr. Henry F. Munro, announcing that graduates of Nova Scotia universities desiring to take up the teaching profession will not be required to take a course at normal college. The three Nova Scotia universities, Acadia, St. Francois Xavier and Dalhousie-Kings, have agreed to the proposals of the education office whereby, for the benefits accruing to their students to receive direct from the education office their license for teaching, the colleges will establish departments of education, and certain assistance, both academic and financial, will be given from the department of education. The statement announced that the arrangement did not affect the status of the normal college, excepting that the graduates of the three universities will no longer be required to attend that institution.

Dr. Munro said the new arrangement was the result of efforts toward solving the two chief education problems in Nova Scotia, arising "at both ends of the system," namely, the ungraded rural schools, which in

many parts of the province have failed to hold their own amid changing economic conditions, and the universities, which in the past have been little identified with the public schoolrooms of Nova Scotia.