

MACDONALD COLLEGE

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

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

POST OFFICE:  
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

20th December, 1924.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:-

As requested, I am sending you a memorandum regarding accommodation.

I may add that so far as the women's residence is concerned, there is no possibility of utilising any more space for the purpose of dormitory accommodation. I consider the building now overcrowded, the number of lavatories insufficient, and if an infectious disease should happen to break out, it is going to be very difficult to provide for suitable isolation, etc., for we cannot use the hospital for infectious diseases. There is always the possibility of students bringing in scarlet fever, measles, diphtheria, or other infectious disease. Many students are coming and going, teaching in the Montreal schools, going home for week-ends, and very frequently they become exposed to infection and bring back some form of infectious disease. This term we have had one case of measles, and one case of diphtheria; fortunately, we were able to send the measles case home, and the diphtheria case was in the men's residence which enabled us to make proper arrangements.

Sir Arthur W. Currie.

20th December, 1924.

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Last year we had over 30 cases of measles, and I had to turn some of the public sitting rooms into hospital quarters. So, as a matter of routine and administration, it is absolutely necessary to be able to isolate any infectious case, and in a crowded building, it is impossible to provide adequate facilities.

Faithfully yours,

*J. C. Harrison,*  
Principal.

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20th December, 1924.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING ACCOMMODATION FOR MEN STUDENTS

- at -

MACDONALD COLLEGE.

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The men's residence at Macdonald College has 23 single rooms, and 55 double rooms, making it possible to accommodate 133 men in the residence.

One single room in this building is allotted to the editorial staff of the College Magazine, and one room is used as a guest room - the only one that we have in the two residences.

The building also contains a small hospital, which is not included in the figures given, but which, of course, has to be kept for its specific purpose.

Residing in the building at the present time are fifteen members of the college staff, each of whom has a single room, and only one sitting room is allotted for this number.

Besides the fifteen members of the staff residing in the building, there are 95 students in residence, making a total of 110.

The empty rooms available are being prepared for the accommodation of students whom we expect for our short courses, of which there are four scheduled for January and February, as follows:-

1. Bee-keeping;
2. Horticulture;
3. Poultry Husbandry;
4. Farm Shopwork, etc.

We expect to have these rooms filled, and are making preparations to use cots, and probably to put three cots in a room so that we shall be able to accommodate about thirty.

In the month of May, all the accommodation in this building is used. The few unoccupied rooms are allotted to the members of the McGill Surveying Staff and the senior students. The remainder of the building, including the gymnasium, its gallery, and even the ends of corridors, and so on, are utilised for setting up cots for the Second Year students of the Survey School, to the number of some 100 or more.

In the month of August, we have a Summer School for Rural Improvement, and house at least 100 men in this building.

Last year we had no summer school for High School Teachers, nor for the Drawing School, but it is quite possible that this year such summer schools will be arranged, when all the accommodation in the building will be utilised.

In addition, we have at times used the building for various purposes. Quite a number of organizations in town often request that I give accommodation for numbers up to 20 and more for a few days. For example, one of the Y.M.C.A. activities has written requesting accommodation for three days at the end of this month for a conference, and frequently during the summer months similar requests are made, and are granted if we have the accommodation.

It is absolutely impossible to use either of the laboratory buildings, or the agricultural buildings, for student rooms. The laboratories and class rooms in these buildings are all equipped and in use, and requests have already been made by some of the departments

(such as the departments of Botany and Agronomy) asking for further accommodation for research work. Hence it is impossible to utilise or adapt any rooms in any of these three buildings for residence purposes.

The proposal made that the men students be moved from their present residence into the temporary dormitory in the Main Building is not practicable. We have accommodation in the Main Building for about 36, and the figures given above will show the impossibility of housing 110 persons in the Main Building.

Further, I wish to point out that the south-east end of this flat, in which this dormitory is situated, is occupied by two members of the Household Science staff, and the students in the School of Household Science have to come and go to this practice house, or apartment, all the time. Hence, it would be an impossible arrangement to place men in this temporary dormitory accommodation.

*J. C. Harrison*  
Principal.

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