

RG:0002,c.0047; FILE # 00483;  
MARTIN, 1922- 1938

**FILE 483**

**MARTIN**

Alexis Martin  
Barrister-at-Law and Solicitor  
Notary Public

Call Address "Lex"

227-8 Pemberton Building  
Victoria, B.C.

December 16th., 1924.

Gen. Sir. A. W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., L.L.D.,  
Principal, McGill University,  
Montreal, P.Q.

My dear Currie,

On <sup>her</sup> return from the East my wife told me how much she had enjoyed her short stay in Montreal, and of your wife's and your own kindness to her when she was there, which I much appreciate.

She told me also that she had talked to you about sending our boy to McGill later on, but there are one or two things upon which I would like to have your opinion before making any final decision in the matter.

He took the McGill matriculation last summer, and he was fifteen at that time.

The first question is what age should a boy be before being sent to McGill in order to obtain the greatest advantage from the courses there. I have told my wife that as he is, in my opinion, younger for his age than most boys he should not be sent for two years more when he would be seventeen, his birthday being in November would make him eighteen in his first term. What is your opinion as to this?

The second question is, what amount of money will be required for him to do as other boys with whom he will be thrown in contact will be doing. A good many boys are, it seems to me, hindered by their parents giving them too much money, and it is equally true that others are put in a difficult position by their parents stinting them.

I should be much obliged to have your opinion upon how much should be allowed to a boy for his own use, and upon the total amount per year which his education would cost while at college, and I would like the estimate to be on the generous side.

There is still another matter that I want to talk to you about, and that is University School. The late Capt. Harvey was the principal shareholder and by far the largest debenture holder in that institution. His own and his family's investments amount to considerably over \$50,000.00. I am one

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right

of his executors and trustees under his Will, and became a director last year when Barnacle retired and sold out to Dr. MacRae who was appointed headmaster. This appointment was a total failure, and we are now looking for a headmaster.

Bolton, that is Jerry Bolton's Father, left Victoria, as you probably know, some years ago, and went down to the South Seas where he has been engaged in educational work for several of the governments, and temporarily we are asking him to come back again as Headmaster until a permanent successor can be appointed. Do you know of any person whom you could recommend for this position? Dr. MacRae's salary was \$350.00 per month and his quarters for himself and his family, with the use of a motor car and half the expense of its up-keep.

Despite Dr. MacRae's failure and the loss of about forty percent of the boys at the School last summer, the number of boys has been increased this term and will be greatly increased after Xmas.

After becoming a director I have endeavoured to add breadth and strength to our directorate, with the result that the following have become directors in the last few months:-

Sir Hibbert Tupper of Vancouver,  
D. C. Coleman of Winnipeg,  
A. C. Burdick here,

the other directors are Dr. MacRae, Gen. R. P. Clark and Jerry Bolton.

Knowing your interest in Victoria, and in education, we would be delighted if you would also become a director, and if we could have the benefit of your advice in the management of the School. When you next come to Victoria we want you to come out and see the School, and help us to make it better.

We believe that there is a great future for it. Our desire is to make it as efficient as possible, and to make the boys life there just as pleasant and happy as it can be made. With this in view a thorough renovation of the School property was made during the summer. A Manual Training Department was added and the beginnings of a Chemical Laboratory, and just this morning the work on a full sized tiled swimming tank to cost \$10,000.00 has been begun.

On looking up our records, the Bursar says that since 1908 when the School was incorporated sixty-four boys have gone from University School to McGill, and there is no reason why this number should not be largely increased in the next sixteen years.

Gen. Sir A. W. Currie - contd;

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With very kind regards to your wife and yourself,  
and hoping I am not giving you too much trouble,

I am, yours sincerely,

*Claris Martin*

AM/P

January  
Third  
1925.

Alexis Martin Esq.,  
227-8 Pemberton Building,  
Victoria, B.C.

My dear Martin:

On my return to Montreal I was delighted to receive your letter of the 16th ultimo, and will do what I can to give you the information asked for.

With reference to your son, if I were you I would not send him to Montreal until he was 17. I quite agree with your views in the matter for several reasons. I do not think a boy can get the most out of university work if he attempts it at too young an age and I place 15 and 16 in that category. Only this year I refused to admit the Bursar's son who is a very clever boy and had passed the necessary examination. Now and then we admit a boy at 16, but only when his home is in the City and he can be well looked after by his parents, because in a city the size of Montreal there are many inducements for a boy to waste his time.

Regarding the cost of his attendance here, I would say that \$850. would be a meagre allowance; \$1,000. would be very fair and \$1,200. would be generous. If he is asked to join a Fraternity, against which institutions I can find nothing to say, he could get his board and lodging for from \$45. to \$50. a month. The same would apply were he to get a room in one of our other hostelries. If he boarded in institutions over which the University has no specific control it would probably cost him \$60. a month. The term as you know lasts eight months.

With reference to the annual fees, I am sending you a Calendar. To the annual fees mentioned there about \$34. a year should be added; \$17. of this \$34. is what we call a Universal Fee and make a

makes a student a member of the Students' Society, of all Athletic Clubs, pays his entrance to University games, etc. I think \$1,000. would give him enough to buy his Ski outfit, skates, etc., if he wanted to go into that sort of sport.

Regarding University School I am glad to know that you are associated with it and to learn that Sir Hibbert Tupper, Mr. Coleman and others have joined your Board. I do not think I should, because some time ago I consented to be a Patron of the School at Brentwood. Possibly, there is no reason why I should not be a Director of one school and a Patron of the other, but still it does not seem quite right. I have always regarded University School as a good school and the University have a very favourable impression of it.

I shall do what I can to help you get a Headmaster. I think you should explore the field in the Old Country. It is easy enough to get a man there with the necessary academic qualifications, but you want somebody who is not a pedant and who has breeze as well as scholarship. I hope to go across this Summer - if I do, I will be very glad to report upon anyone recommended to you from there. I shall also write to some of my friends and ask them to give the matter some thought and to make some recommendations. I would like to send out to you a graduate of McGill and one who is a Rhodes Scholar as well. I will not forget the matter and hope to help you to find a suitable person.

I have hopes of visiting Victoria in October of this year. I think I am going to Vancouver in connection with the opening of the new University Buildings.

Please remember us kindly to Mrs. Martin. We did enjoy seeing her last Winter.

With all good wishes to yourself, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

MCGILL UNIVERSITY  
PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR  
L. W. DOUGLAS

May 27, 1938

My dear Dr. Martin,

Thank you so much for your kind note.

We had a good day yesterday, and everything seemed to go off well. We held Convocation on the lower campus and there was a garden party at Douglas Hall.

I shall hope to see you on your return.

With kindest and best wishes for yourself and

Mrs. Martin,

Yours very sincerely,

Dr. C. F. Martin,



ROYAL SAN REMO

TELEGR. ROYAL SAN REMO  
TELEF. 5277 SAN REMO  
GOLF 18 buche

15.5.38

My dear Mr. Douglas

This little line is just to convey my sincerest good wishes for a successful convocation at the close of the most auspicious year I have seen for U.C.I.E. for more than a decade - Thanks entirely to you - I can't resist this impulse to tell you so.

I was sorry - we both were - not to see you before sailing - we tried but found you both away again! - Better luck for us on our return early in June when we hope you will not already have flitted away before coming to our shack in the country.

We have had delightful weeks in Italy & are off to the Dordogne & to Provence before sailing.

With sincerest greetings from us both to all at home.

Very Sincerely  
C. Martin

MCGILL UNIVERSITY  
PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR  
L. W. DOUGLAS

July 20th, 1938

My dear Mr. Martin,

Thank you so much for your very interesting letter.

It is a long way from New Mexico to British Columbia, but I hope you are happily settled there.

With regard to your young son who wishes to be an archaeologist, I am sorry to say that he could not pursue his studies to this end at McGill. Toronto, I believe, would be the better place for archeology. I am asking the Registrar to send you, however, a General Announcement and an Announcement of the courses offered in the Faculty of Arts and Science and also a Scholarships Announcement, and I would suggest that after you have perused them you write to Dr. C. W. Hendel, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science, if you still feel that you would like the boy to undertake his preliminary studies here. We, of course, would be delighted to have him, but I must be frank in telling you that here there are no facilities for the study of archaeology.

With all kind wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

Theodore C. Martin, Esq.,  
2271 Fulton Avenue,  
Hollyburn, B. C.

2271 Fulton Ave  
Hollyburn, P.Q.  
July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1938.

Mr. Lewis Douglas,  
McGill University  
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Mr. Douglas:

You will probably have to do some research work before you find out just who I am, but I know more of your people than you are likely to know of mine. My father was Theodore Martin, whose mother was a Douglas. My father went cattle ranching in New Mexico, where I was born. You have probably never heard of any of us, in which you are very lucky! However you are

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going to hear of us in the future,  
for my son is heading for McGill.

He won't be there for some  
time as he is only 14 at present,  
but I promised him I'd write to  
you & get what information there  
is to be had about his best  
course to pursue in studies.

He wants to be an archaeologist;  
has had his mind made up to it  
for several years. He is in grade  
X, second year high school. His  
principal wanted to skip him a grade  
last winter, but hesitated as he  
said he didn't want Robin to get  
out of his social grade, into a  
grade with kids very much older  
than himself. The principal in  
question says Robin is the cleverest  
child he has ever had anything to  
do with, & that he should go far  
if given any chance at all.

Robin reads a great deal,  
 & makes copious notes & files them  
 away. "History of Modern Europe 1918-36",  
 Gibbons "Fall & Decline of the Roman  
 Empire", Washington Irving's "Conquest  
 of Granada", Colonel Lawrence's books,  
 and just a few specimens of his  
recreational reading this year.

But he is not 'bookish' in the  
 commonly accepted sense of the word.  
 He is an excellent swimmer, & goes  
 off for long trips on his bicycle,  
 taking a camping outfit with him.

Altogether we think he's a wonderful  
 boy, but then of course we're pre-  
 judiced!

The question all this is to ask  
 is, what should he study from now  
 on, or should he specialize in anything?  
 He is taking Latin & French, social  
 studies, general science, English &  
 mathematics. What kind of

Scholarships could he qualify for at McGill, & what measure of help could he count on from them?

I don't know at present what help I shall be able to give him, at the time he is ready to go up, but it might not be much.

Robin has an elder brother, Jack, who will be 18 in December & who is in the same grade as Robin! He specializes in Rugby, Football, track & boxing, & is really outstanding at the last named. He is busy at present trying to find himself a job.

Now if you can be bothered to wade thru all this & care to answer, we would appreciate it awfully. We were of course very much interested in the news of your installation at McGill. You have probably met Purford

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Gibson, + Maud Marling Saunders.  
Or is it the other way around? -  
I can't remember the chronological  
order of her husbands, but they are  
awfully nice folks, whom I haven't  
seen since just after the war.

Best regards + good success in  
your new position from us all.

Yours very sincerely  
Theodore G. Martin.

P.S. Mother says that she thinks  
you have an aunt Ella, who stayed  
with us in New Mexico on the  
ranch once, when James Douglas  
was making one of his trips to  
Arizona. He stayed at the ranch  
several times en route.

T.G.M.

CRAUFURD MARTIN

BARRISTER  
SOLICITOR, NOTARY, ETC.

TELEPHONE - ADELAIDE 8011

ROOM 1012 FEDERAL BUILDING  
85 RICHMOND ST. WEST

TORONTO 2, CANADA.

October 20 1926

Dear Sir Arthur

I trust you will remember me in connection with the Third Echelon where I was for some time D.A.A.G. reinforcements. I also had the pleasure of a chat with you on the Campus during a cricket match some years ago which you may recollect.

I am making application for the position of Assistant Legal Adviser for the International Labour Office of the League of Nations at Geneva. To support my application I am required to forward letters of reference as to experience and qualification. Although the duties are not very well defined I have no difficulty in obtaining what is necessary from members of the legal profession here who are able to vouch as to my professional abilities. Something more will however I expect be required and I thought that perhaps you might feel disposed to say something in my favour based upon what you know of my work in France.

The application is to be made to the Secretary of the Civil Service Commission Ottawa and I should be very much like to send a letter from you with my papers

W.S.D.

I realize of course that I am asking a very  
great favour and perhaps presuming upon what is  
rather a slender connection but I trust that  
should you not feel inclined to do this you  
will yet not think the less of me for having asked you

I am  
yours very truly  
Crawford Martin

November 1st, 1926.

Craufurd Martin, Esq.,  
85 Richmond Street West,  
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Mr. Martin:-

I am sorry that I have not before this answered your letter of October 20th. I remember you very well and remember the conversation we had when the Toronto team was down here playing cricket.

I would be only too pleased to help you in your application for the position of Assistant Legal Adviser for the International Labour Office of the League of Nations at Geneva, but there is so little that I can say. I know that you were an efficient officer of the D.A.A.G. Department, Third Echelon, in France, but I wonder if a statement to that effect would be of much assistance. I would be only too glad to say it if you thought it would do any good.

With all kind wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

CRAUFURD MARTIN

BARRISTER  
SOLICITOR, NOTARY, ETC.

ROOM 1012 FEDERAL BUILDING  
85 RICHMOND ST. WEST

TELEPHONE - ADELAIDE 8011

TORONTO 2, CANADA.

3rd November, 1926.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:

I thank you very much indeed for your letter. Since I wrote to you I have been able to learn a good deal about the position at Geneva and what is required of the applicant. Had I then had this information I should not have troubled you for the situation is now clear to me as you see it and I think that the limitations to what you could have said would have been too narrow for it to have been of much assistance.

However I heard yesterday that my application had passed that stage for which letters of reference were necessary and its success now depends entirely upon my ability to convince the Official from Geneva that I can do the required work.

I am nevertheless very grateful to you for your good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

*Craufurd Martin*

CM/F

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November 20th, 1922.

SIR ARTHUR CURRIE,  
PRINCIPAL, MCGILL UNIVERSITY,  
C I T Y.

My dear Sir Arthur,-

Many thanks for your congratulations and good wishes, and it pleases me very much to learn that my appointment meets with general approval by the Bench, the Bar and the public.

When offered the position by the Minister of Justice, I accepted it with some misgivings, as I felt I was getting too old to accept new responsibilities, but it was urged upon me as a public duty and I accepted, and I hope I may live up to the expectations of my friends.

Yours faithfully,

November  
Fifteenth  
1922.

Hon. Mr. Justice Martin,  
374 Wood Avenue,  
Westmount, Que.

Dear Chief Justice:-

I am ashamed of myself that I have not before this written to you to congratulate you on being appointed Chief Justice in succession to the Honourable Mr. Justice Archibald.

When I saw it in the paper first I wanted to ring you up at once to congratulate you. Then I thought it would be better to wait and write to you, and here I have allowed a week to go by without formally expressing to you the pride which your associates and friends at McGill feel in your well-merited promotion.

Most cordially do we congratulate you and we look forward with every confidence to your having a distinguished career as Chief Justice of this Province.

Yours faithfully,

Shewing an Engineering Co

St Marcise PQ

May 24<sup>th</sup> 1895

Sir Arthur Curie  
McGill University  
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur.

I much apologize  
for not writing you before,  
but I am glad to say that  
I arrived here & started on the  
16<sup>th</sup> May. I like it very much  
and what is more am determined  
to make good. I have not heard  
from my home yet but feel  
sure that your kindness  
in assisting me then has been  
more than appreciated.

wishing you all kinds  
of luck with your scheme of  
placing disabled veterans

I remain

Faithfully yours  
W. J. Matthews

May 27th, 1925.

W. J. Martin, Esq.,  
Shawinigan Engineering Company,  
St. Narcisse, P.Q.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of your letter  
of May 24th.

I did not send to your home the  
money that I intimated I would because I received  
very adverse reports concerning yourself.

Yours faithfully,