

FILE 536

REA - REH

DOCKET STARTS:

RED CROSS SOCIETY

February 23rd, 1926.

Lieut.-Colonel John F. Buckley,
45 Belmont Park,
Montreal.

My dear Colonel:-

I have your letter of yesterday's date with reference to the propriety of making some presentation to Mr. W. R. Miller as a mark of appreciation for the service rendered as President of the Canadian Red Cross Society for the past twelve years.

I am fully in accord with the suggestion and will support in any way I can its completion. I shall be very glad to prepare the letter if it is decided that the memorial shall take the form you indicate.

Yours faithfully,

FOUNDED 1896



INCORPORATED 1906

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

QUEBEC PROVINCIAL DIVISION

45 BELMONT PARK

MONTREAL.

22nd February, 1926.

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE MANAGER.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,-

You have no doubt heard that Mr. W.R. Miller, who has been President of the Canadian Red Cross Society for the past twelve years, has relinquished active office, and I have wondered whether you think it would be a fitting occasion for those of us who were privileged to serve Overseas to express in some way our appreciation of the service rendered by the Red Cross during the War, and since the Armistice.

As you are no doubt aware, the Province of Quebec contributed largely in the supplying of comforts sent to us in France, and has been outstanding in the Dominion of Canada in their active work for returned soldiers since the Armistice. In fact the Province of Quebec is the only Province where all funds collected for the soldiers have been, and are still being, used for that purpose only.

To our late President, Mr. Miller, much of the credit is due for, not only did he give his whole time to Red Cross work during the years of the War, but he has since then, in spite of ill health, continued in active office.

It has occurred to me that some recognition of these services would be appropriate at the present moment, and I would suggest for your consideration that this take the form of an Album with a letter from yourself duly inscribed at the beginning, and with the signatures afterwards of as many ex-Officers in the Province of Quebec as can possibly be obtained.

FOUNDED 1896



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-2-

General Sir Arthur Currie.

The expenses in connection with such a mark of appreciation would be very small and need not enter into the consideration at all, as I practically have a guarantee for any amount which it might cost.

I shall be glad to know your views on this subject and trust that you will approve of my suggestion, which I am sure would be appreciated by Mr. Miller, and I feel it is as little as we can do to show our appreciation of the many things the Red Cross did for us whilst Overseas.

Yours faithfully,

John F. Buckley

FOUNDED 1896



INCORPORATED 1906

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

QUEBEC PROVINCIAL DIVISION

45 BELMONT PARK

MONTREAL. 10th March, 1926.

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE MANAGER.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 23rd last with reference to the propriety of making some presentation to Mr. W.R. Miller, who recently resigned as President of the Canadian Red Cross Society after a period of service of twelve years.

I note that you are in accord with the suggestion made, and I am endeavouring to submit the matter to as many of the Senior Officers in Montreal as I can get in touch with, after which I will communicate with you and let you know the concensus of opinion.

Yours faithfully,

JFB:DAW

FOUNDED 1896



INCORPORATED 1909

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

QUEBEC PROVINCIAL DIVISION

45 BELMONT PARK

MONTREAL. 10th March, 1926.

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE MANAGER.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 23rd of February last, and at the same time to apologize for the delay in doing so.

I note your views in connection with the suggestion of an appeal to ex-members of the C.E.F. for the purpose of erecting a Nurses' Home in London, England, as a memorial to the Nurses of the Overseas Nursing Service who died in the war.

I quite agree with you that the response would not be great, but I am referring the matter to Sir Percy Lake who, I understand, was recently elected President of the Canadian Legion formed as a result of Lord Haig's visit last Summer.

With many thanks for your opinion as expressed, I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY
Quebec Provincial Division

John G. Buckley
.....
Manager

JFB:DAW

March 13th, 1925.

Colonel J. F. Buckley,
The Canadian Red Cross Society,
45 Belmont Park,
Montreal.

My dear Colonel:-

With reference to your letter of March 11th and the invitation contained therein to attend the Annual Meeting of the Quebec Provincial Division of the Canadian Red Cross Society, on Wednesday, the 18th instant at 3. p.m., I am very sorry that I shall not be able to be present at the meeting, as I do not expect to be in Montreal on that date.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

FOUNDED 1895



INCORPORATED 1909

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

QUEBEC PROVINCIAL DIVISION

45 BELMONT PARK

MONTREAL. 11th March, 1925.

out of town

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE MANAGER.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,

The honor of your attendance is requested
at the Annual Meeting of the Quebec Provincial, Division of
the Canadian Red Cross Society, which will be held at
45 Belmont Park, Montreal, on Wednesday the 18th instant,
at 3 p.m.

It will be much appreciated if you will
kindly favor us with a reply.

Yours faithfully,

CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY
Quebec Provincial Division

John G. Buckley
.....
Manager

JFB/W

DOCKET ENDS:

RED CROSS SOCIETY

Private TEL. NO.
HA. 7572.

Nov 22 - 38.
Room 1601. University
Tower Bldg.

Dr Lewis Douglas
Principal McGill University

Dear Dr Douglas,

I have not had the pleasure
as an old graduate of meeting
you personally as yet but
I think this letter will explain
itself.

The original letter was written
under great stress between aerial
bombing and artillery fire.
It was almost illegible.

For this reason I had my
secretary make copies of

it for all those mentioned
in the footnote.

Thirsk D. Thomson graduated
in medicine from McGill
in 1912.

I was in Baltimore at Johns
Hopkins during his student
days and did not meet
him until after the war.

He was my mother's protégé
and she subscribed yearly
to his Hospital at Canton and
when she died last February
in her 96th year she remembered
him & his work in her will.

I sent his original letter
to Dr. A. J. Bazin yesterday

wishing him to send it on to you
as I thought you might then send
it on to Gordon Glasco the Secy
of the McGill Graduates Soc. to
put in Dr. Thomson's File.

I would not be a bit surprised if
Dr. Thomson did not come through
the bad times in Canada as he has
been very active for the last year
in propaganda against the Japanese.

I will send Glasco a copy
of the type written letter enclosed
perhaps he might like to use it
in the next copy of the Grad. Soc.
Magazine.

Even at this late date may I
tell you how pleased I and all my
family & friends were when you
accepted the call to become Principal
at McGill.

Hope at some early date to have the
pleasure of meeting & being introduced
to you.

With kindest regards

Very sincerely

Lewis H. Bedford.

Oct. 1900 - Feb. 1904.

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

November 23, 1938

My dear Doctor Reford,

Thank you so much for your kindness in sending to me the copy of Dr. Thomson's letter from Canton. He writes to the University at frequent intervals, but we have not heard from him since the Japanese entered Canton. One sympathizes deeply with any foreigners in China to-day, and Dr. Thomson has been through a trying time. We can only hope that he has come through.

My secretary tells me that you mentioned in your telephone conversation with her the other day that you were entering hospital. May I say that I do so hope it is nothing serious and that you will soon feel quite yourself again? Certainly I shall be only too happy to make your acquaintance when the doctors give you a clear bill of health again and you feel like a meeting. I know of the keen interest which you have manifested in the University and should be glad indeed to see you.

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. Lewis Reford,
Suite 1601, University Tower,
Montreal. Que.

Written Oct. 21. 38.
Received Nov. 21. 38.

Copy of a letter from:
Dr. J. Oscar Thomson,
Canton, China.

*For Dr. Lewis W. Douglas B.A., LL.D.
Principal Vice-Chancellor
McGill University
Montreal.*

Dear Dr. Reford:

Canton is a rather a noisy place today. The Chinese are blowing up places they don't want the Japs to occupy and Japs planes are bombing.

It is a beautiful day - Why do men want to fight on this beautiful earth? Most of our Canton Hospital staff have been sent to "Shin Kwaon" (?) a place on the North River on the Hankow R.W.Y. about 100 miles from Canton where under the auspices of the International Red Cross we have established a Hospital to care for wounded soldiers on the Compound of the English Methodist Mission.

Our Lady Doctors, and nurses, did not want to stay here and be tortured and slaughtered by the Jap soldiers as at Nanking and other places. The rest of our staff have united with the Hackett Medical Centre of the American Presbyterian Mission in the Western Section of the City where we will carry on.

The city has been well evacuated and trenches have been dug in the streets.

We hope Chamberlain will not try to appease Japan at the expense of China. To have allowed the Japs to come here was very stupid on the part of Britain, France and the U.S.A.

I drafted a cable which was sent to Britain and America as follows:
"Japanese Militarists invading Canton Provinces home of overseas Chinese and origin and centre of Anglo Saxon influence in China. Appeal to English speaking People not to allow Canton to suffer the fate of Nanking the most inhuman butchery of Modern times. Reported that General Matsui responsible for the Nanking atrocities is leading the Canton Invasion".

The Cantonese should have held out better than they have. Many troops, military equipment, etc, were sent to Hankow.

It is difficult for flesh and blood to with stand war ships, bombers, heavy artillery, and tanks. The Chinese have very little of such Mechanisation and Britain, France, and the U.S.A. in their own interest should have given these to the Chinese who are really fighting for Democracy. If Armageddon comes it will be owing to the lack of foresight and unity of action and because of the stupidity of the Democracies. My brother Herbert and his wife are living in a Suburb of Canton called "Pack Holl Tang" (?) or White Cranes Nest.

He is to have charge of a Refugee Zone for old men. 700 capacity. "The True Light School" there of which my wife used to be Principal. It is to be a Refugee Zone for women and children.

Jap planes over head no anti-aircraft guns now to try to drive them off. Shortly we go to a meeting to make final arrangements about Refugee Zone and then go to Hackett Medical Centre to stay. The Foreigners will stay at "Fuignon University" (?) to try and keep it. We hoist Flags and Proclamations and (place) (?) Guards at this Hospital also and hope to keep it from the Japs.

Cordially yours,

J. Oscar Thomson.

P. S. - Could you send this letter to:
Mrs. G. W. Grier. Redpath Crescent,
Mr. Geo. R. Lighthall 567 Roslyn Ave,
President Douglas of McGill,
Dr. A. Bazin and Dr. A. H. Gordon.

My wife and small children are in Hong Kong. My oldest daughter at school in the French Concession of Shanghai.

from
Lewis McPherson
University Tower Bldg.
660 St Catherine St W.

Private McPherson no.
HA. 7572

December 19

1935

Dear Mr. Reford,

I return with many thanks the Van Gogh Catalogue. I visited the Exhibition on Monday and was absolutely enchanted. It really is a most thrilling show and I am most grateful to you for having told me about it. Again many thanks for the Catalogue, which I have had to duplicate, as I must possess one myself.

It was a great pleasure to have a first glance at your many treasures and I shall certainly hope to avail myself of your kind suggestion that I may visit you again some time and quietly absorb some of the beauty which adorns your house. We enjoyed the evening with you and Mrs. Reford so much.

Yours sincerely,

R. W. Reford, Esq.,
3510 Drummond Street,
MONTREAL. QUE.