

**FILE 356**

**GRADUATES' SOCIETY:**

**ENDOWMENT FUND**

**SURVEY**



190 St. James Street.  
4167 DORCHESTER STREET  
MONTREAL

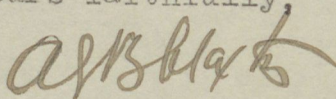
March 16th, 1925.

Dear Sir Arthur,-

Forty years ago, on the  
twenty-eighth of March, I was "capped"  
at McGill by Principal Dawson in the old  
Molson Hall, and, as Secretary of Law '85  
I have written each of the surviving  
members suggesting to them that we should  
all, as a mere token of appreciation,  
send \$25 to you for the Graduates Endow-  
ment Fund.

Wishing you and old McGill  
every success, and with personal kind  
regards.

Yours faithfully,



Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D.  
Principal, McGill University,  
MONTREAL.



*Grad. Indorsement*

March 17th, 1925.

A. G. B. Claxton, Esq.,  
190 St. James Street,  
Montreal.

My dear Mr. Claxton:-

Let me thank you most warmly  
and sincerely for your letter of yesterday with  
cheque to be placed to the credit of the McGill  
Graduates' Endowment Fund.

Your continued and practical  
interest in the University is greatly appreciated.

Most cordially reciprocating  
your good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,



*Swabey Survey Report*

# *The Canada Starch Co., Limited.*

WORKS  
CARDINAL, ONT.  
FORT WILLIAM, ONT.

RAILWAY EXCHANGE BUILDING  
637 CRAIG STREET, WEST

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO  
POST OFFICE BOX 760  
MONTREAL

*Montreal,* May 15th, 1931.  
CANADA

Sir Arthur Currie,  
McGill University,  
Montreal.

My dear Sir Arthur:-

The McGill Graduates Endowment Fund is, as you know, responsible for the collecting of this Fund, and I should perhaps also draw your attention to the fact that it is rather a different organization from the Trustees, who are responsible for the care and employment of the Fund. Almost from the end of the first year, when matters opened up with great enthusiasm, the Committee have felt every sort of response from lukewarmness through the whole gamut to active opposition, with some few high spots of enthusiastic support. At odd times open expression has been given to all these different moods, and in many cases proper explanation was able to convert some at least of the antagonism, or want of response. Last Autumn we felt that we should get a closer estimate of the reasons why we were not able to secure not only a larger sum of money, but subscriptions from a larger percentage of the Graduates. To do this, our Committee were of course not able to spend the time personally, and we therefore arranged that Mr. Alan Swabey, a Commerce Graduate, should call upon a large proportion of the Graduates in the city of Montreal, and feel them out as to their attitude towards the Fund. In his interviews a great deal of information about the Graduates Society and its good and bad features developed, and in addition to that there was a good deal of criticism constructive and otherwise, about McGill. We propose to issue this report to the officials of the Graduate Society and perhaps to the Chairmen of the different Branch Societies in the thought that it might help to increase the appeal of the Graduates Society amongst the Graduate Body.

On the other hand at the last meeting of the Committee I undertook to submit the report to you before it was published in any way other than simply being read by the individual members of our Committee. It was thought that the report might be of interest to you, in so far as it bears on McGill itself, and that perhaps you might care to have a number of copies for distribution amongst the Governing Body, or the Professors. I had hoped to come up and see you, partly to have



# *The Canada Starch Co. Limited.*

WORKS  
CARDINAL, ONT.  
FORT WILLIAM, ONT.

RAILWAY EXCHANGE BUILDING  
637 CRAIG STREET, WEST

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO  
POST OFFICE BOX 760  
MONTREAL

*Montreal,*  
CANADA

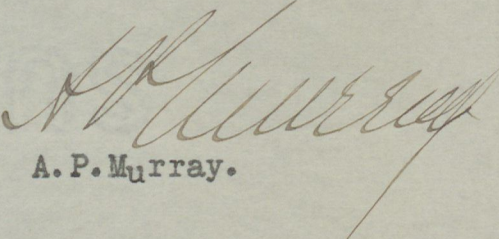
April 15th, 1931.

2.

the pleasure of welcoming you back, but on the other hand I wanted to explain rather carefully just how the report came into existence, and our reasons for submitting it to you. I should be very pleased indeed if you could spare the time to talk the matter over, and I am always in town from Monday noon till Friday noon.

With very kindest regards, and congratulating you on your appearance of robust health, I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

  
A. P. Murray.

APM/A.



May 21, 1931.

Mr. A. P. Murray, Esq.,  
Canada Starch Company,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir,

In response to your enquiry, I am returning the report, but I have taken the liberty of keeping that part which refers particularly to the University, although I should have liked very much to have kept it.

As you will recall, I had very thoroughly defaced, by my own comments written in lead pencil, the part which I have extracted. Rather than send you that part of it now, I have had it re-copied, so that the report I am returning is complete.

You have my assurance that I hold myself in readiness at all times to meet the members of your Committee, if they should desire to see me. Whatever the fate of the report, I do not wish anyone to have the impression that I have sought to throttle in any way a free expression of opinion.

Yours faithfully,

Principal



McGILL UNIVERSITY

Office of the Principal  
and Vice Chancellor.

June 8, 1931.

At 5.15 this afternoon I met in conference the members of the Executive of the McGill Graduates' Endowment Fund Committee:

Messrs. C.F.Sise            S. G. Dixon  
          J.C.Meakins        Walter Molson  
          H.W.Morgan         S. A. Neilson

Mr. Gordon Glassco

There were also present:

Messrs. Homer Jaquays, President of the Society  
          Gordon McKinnon, President of the Montreal Branch  
          Mr. Gordon Glassco, Executive Secretary

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the value of the report made on behalf of the Graduates Endowment Fund Executive Committee, by Mr. Alan Swabey, as a result of his interviews with three hundred graduates of McGill, who make no contribution to the Graduates Endowment Fund.

Mr. Swabey recorded faithfully the reasons given by these graduates for making no contribution, and, generally, they were based on criticisms of the University, the Fund itself, or the Graduates Society.

I questioned the value of that kind of information, and also took occasion to comment on almost every paragraph of the report. The Conference lasted until seven o'clock, and as a result the Committee decided to destroy the report, coming to the conclusion that possibly the only good to be derived from it was the proof it furnished that criticism existed which might be avoided if greater pains were taken to keep graduates informed of the University's progress, etc.

AWC:DM



July 14, 1931.

Dean C. F. Martin,  
Faculty of Medicine,  
McGill University.

Dear Dean Martin,

In the following matter I write to you as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Graduates' Endowment Fund.

You will remember that one day last week you spoke to me about the manner in which the Graduates' Endowment Fund might employ the income from that Fund during the coming year. I have thought a good deal about this since our conversation. You know my feelings regarding the Lectureship, a matter which I know lies very close to the heart of such graduates as Dr. Colby.

I can say no more for the Lectureship than I said before, but while I was absent when the Adams' Lectures were given, I still believe that the presence of an outstanding scholar for a month during term time ought to be one of the most stimulating influences on the intellectual life, not only of the community but of the City. Perhaps it is too soon to condemn the idea of a Lectureship. Still, if the Graduates' Committee feel that the money was not put to the best advantage last year, I shall not press it further.

In reading over the survey reports, one is impressed by the universal request for scholarships. We have so very, very few at McGill and the old ones are so small that they do not serve the purpose. Twenty years ago \$150 was easily worth from two to three times what it is now. Again, some of these scholarships are not scholarships at all: they are more in the nature of prizes. A scholarship should be for scholarship, and not awarded because a student happens to come from a certain locality. (However, one must not refuse them on that account.)



It seems to me that McGill will not grow greatly in numbers. Additional students, too, would only add to our financial weakness, inasmuch as we would require more teachers, class rooms, laboratories, etc., and while class rooms, laboratories, laboratory facilities, should be increased, we need better teachers and scholars rather than more teachers and scholars. The provincial universities will grow in numbers: their fees will always be lower than ours, because living conditions nearer home will be much less than in Montreal, and to many people it does not make much difference whether a B. A. degree is from Manitoba or British Columbia, as long as it is a degree.

We must try to make the McGill degree the most worth-while degree and to do that we must be able to entice the best students from all over Canada to this University. I would like to see McGill a University that would send out to the other universities the teachers they want in all university departments. We should be in a position to offer some inducement to the best students to come here. The best Canadian students in Chemistry do come to McGill for their post graduate work. I would like to see that condition apply in all other departments.

Would the Graduates consider devoting the interest of their Endowment Fund to help along such an ambition?

Or, would they favour devoting the income of their Fund to a Students' Loan Fund? The university student has as much right to finance himself as anybody else while gaining useful experience and knowledge to fit him to become a good citizen in after years. I believe, too, that the promise of a diligent and intelligent student to repay his Alma Mater any loans made to him when in residence is as safe a security as any on the market. Many universities in the United States have long since founded a Students' Loan Fund, and many of them report from time to time that they seldom lose a single dollar through bad loans. Sometimes the loans are slow being returned, but they are nearly always paid in the end with interest. If this is true in the United States, I feel it would be even more true in Canada. The university student without adequate ways and means (and there are an increasing number of these during this time of financial depression) is always



FOREWORD

The members of the Executive of the Endowment Fund Committee, whose names are given below, are responsible for the collections for the Graduates' Endowment Fund. In the Autumn of 1930 they determined that it was necessary to find out through personal interviews with non-subscribing graduates, why the Endowment Fund has not met with their favourable response.

Mr. Alan Swabey was employed for the purpose of interviewing the graduates, and was asked to see as many as possible of the Montreal men who were not regular annual subscribers to the Fund. It was felt that the opinions of a cross section of McGill graduates who were more accessible for interview than those outside Montreal, would reflect to a fairly reliable extent, the opinions of all the non-subscribing graduates.

In questioning the graduates, Mr. Swabey was given many reasons for their failure to be interested in the Graduates' Endowment Fund. While some of these were criticisms of the Fund itself, yet it was stated by many that their disinterest in the Fund is based on their disapproval of conditions existing in the University, and in some cases in the Graduates' Society. For this reason, it is necessary to embody these criticisms in this report.

Executive of Endowment Fund Committee 1930-1931

A. P. Murray, B.A., Chairman	. . . . .
C. F. Sise, B.Sc., Treasurer	. . . . .
S. G. Dixon, B.A., B.C.L.	. . . . .
J. C. Meakins, M.D. C.M.	. . . . .
Walter Molson, B.A.	. . . . .
H. W. Morgan, B.A.	. . . . .
S. A. Neilson, B.Sc.	. . . . .



unfairly handicapped. If such a Fund were set up, possibly each student to whom a serious loan is made should take out a policy of life insurance to protect the University against loss in case of fatality; possibly, too, some scheme of student group insurance might be devised to protect the fund.

I therefore respectfully ask the consideration of your Committee for the application of the income from the Graduates' Endowment Fund towards:-

- a). The Lectureship, or
- b). Scholarships, or
- c). A Students' Loan Fund

Yours faithfully,

Principal



P A R T O N E

SEC. A. - MCGILL'S SERVICE TO CANADA

Ten years ago McGill closed a century of most useful service to Canada in a strong position among the universities of the world. In the past hundred years our Alma Mater has, due to the efforts of men of clear vision and unflinching courage, improved her standing both as a cultural and as a practical seat of learning. Her story, one of struggle, disappointment, and discouragement, although still in its early chapters, augurs a future to be reflected in the approaching greatness of Canada. The makers of McGill have left a great heritage for the students of today to enjoy. In this modern age of business these same students are apt to forget the efforts that have made possible these advantages. A great number are prone to idly criticize, but fortunately there are those of greater vision, who are endeavoring to carry on the good work to the greater realization of the pioneers' dream.

SEC. B. - THE OBJECT OF THE REPORT

The object of this report is not, unfortunately, to sing McGill's praises. It is to set out as clearly and as briefly as possible the attitude of the graduate body towards the Endowment Fund, towards the McGill Graduates' Society and towards their Alma Mater. The information contained herein is based entirely upon the results of more than three hundred interviews, made possible by the co-operation of the McGill graduates in all walks of life in Montreal. This survey was authorized by the Endowment Fund Committee of the Society as a step towards improving the appeal for the Fund.

SEC. C. - THE QUALITY OF THE INFORMATION

In a survey of this kind it is naturally difficult to obtain an unbiased opinion from all the men who are approached. They all feel that they are to be asked for money eventually, if not at the moment, so that a great deal of the material can be considered in a business sense as "sales resistance". Although this opposition may exaggerate conditions, it is a factor to be given much consideration, being of necessity, one that will have to be eliminated in the attempt to increase the appeal. Besides this element there is an abundance of constructive criticism that will be invaluable, not only to the future policy of the Graduates' Society concerning the Fund, but to the University itself, and to the welfare of its graduates.

SEC. C.- (1) The Business Depression and McGill's Apparently Sound Position

Also affecting the response of the graduates to any appeal is the present state of business. With an admittedly difficult year ahead for 1931, business men suffering from the universal fall in values, are inclined to have a rather pessimistic outlook, especially upon any demand not strictly of a charitable nature. This is amplified by the fact that McGill's position is apparently sound, and while there is so much social distress it is generally felt that her need is hardly urgent.

SEC. C. - (2) Variety of Occupations

To ensure a representative attitude, care was taken to distribute the interviews among graduates of all years and faculties. An idea of the widespread variety of occupations of the McGill men who were approached can be seen readily from the following chart.



SEC. C. - (2)  
cont'd.

Among those interviewed there were men practising the following PROFESSIONS.

<u>Medical</u>	<u>Legal</u>	<u>Engineering</u>
Physicians Surgeons Dentists	Judges Advocates Barristers Solicitors Notaries Patent Attorneys Corporation Lawyers	Chemical Electrical Civil Constructing Mining Architects
Engaged in BUSINESS and FINANCE, dealing with		
Chartered Accounting Adjusters Advertising Banking Insurance Investment	Newspaper Printing Real Estate Stock Broking Trust Company	Art Galleries Auctioneers Coal Furniture Importers Jewellers
Engaged in MANUFACTURING		
Brewing Chemical Cork Electrical Equipment	Explosives Hardware Iron Machinery	Radio Tubes Valves and Fittings
Engaged in INDUSTRY		
Pulp and Paper	Power	Lumber
Engaged in CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY OR ALLIED TRADES		
Contractors for:-		
Boilers Brick	Heating Builders Supplies	Hardware Stone
Engaged in TRANSPORTATION		
Railway	Aeroplane	

There are several others who are occupied in EDUCATION and SECRETARIAL work and two members of the PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT. The above listing includes the officers of many companies.

SEC. C. - (3) The Different Types of Prospects

The problem confronting the salesman of judging his prospect is very similar to that facing the Society in their appeals. There are among college graduates, as among any other class of individuals, numerous schools of thought. The influences brought to bear during a man's early years, conjointly with his natural temperament, are the forces that mold his ideas, which are bound to differ from those of his neighbour. In college he is a member of one or other of the faculties, his point of view differing, consequently, from that of a member of another faculty, must be appealed to in another direction.



SEC. C. - (3) It is unfortunate, that at McGill there exists this breach between cont'd. the students of the various faculties. During the course of this report a great disagreement of opinion manifests itself. At times ideas are expressed which fail to coincide in any detail. The reader must bear in mind the different types of individuals when considering the information.

SEC. C. - (4) Difference in Ages

Besides a widespread variety of occupations and types of men, there is a great difference in the ages of the graduates who offered their criticism. Between the year of graduation of the oldest and the youngest, about half a century intervenes. Varying in age from twenty-five to seventy, the majority were graduates of 1890 to 1920.

SEC. D. ORDER OF PRESENTATION OF THE PROBLEMS  
(1,2,3)

In order to save waste of time in the consideration of the various problems, they are presented, if not in sequence, in divisions that can be readily understood. There are three main organizations at which criticism is levelled; McGill; the Graduates' Society; and the Endowment Fund itself. These form very convenient headings under which to place the different theories, and for convenience in looking up any section, the information will be found in concise form in the index pages.

The last section of the report will be a summary of the more practical advice obtained, assembled for convenience in the form of a possible procedure in the attempt to increase the appeal to the graduates for the Endowment Fund.

---



SEC. A.- REASON FOR DISCUSSING MCGILL IN THIS REPORT.

In considering an appeal in aid of McGill University it is only natural that the individual should first examine the operations of the institution which he is asked to support. Not being overburdened with this world's goods, the average graduate is anxious to employ his funds to the best advantage. He not only regards McGill as it was in his day, but is interested to know present conditions. Some have even taken the trouble to study the state of affairs and the problems that confront a growing university, while others base their views entirely on hearsay. Unfortunately the latter are in the majority, their theories being accordingly out of proportion to fact, and their ideas subject to correction.

Nevertheless it is the aim of this report to speak from the graduates viewpoints as fully as possible. The reader is asked not to consider the statements only from McGill's side or merely from the graduates', but to judge each point fairly from every angle. If this is done, it will be seen whether the criticism comes from misunderstanding, prejudice, disinterest, lack of thought, or is really based on just grounds.

SEC. B. COLLEGE SPIRIT AND COLLEGE LIFE.

SEC. B.(1) The Development of College Spirit.

SEC. B.(1) a. McGill.

A great number of McGill graduates have the feeling that their Alma Mater has not meant as much as it should to them. Looking back on their college days, they find little to bring back fond memories of campus life, of glamour, or of friendship.

SEC. B.(1) B. The American College

It is apparent to the graduate that McGill falls far wide of the mark set by the colleges to the south in instilling into their students that strong spirit which holds men together through the long years of struggle following their graduation.

The picture painted by several graduates, during interviews, is exemplified in their ideas of the American college reunion, which they affirm is awaited with longing, from year to year. Old gray-beards return for their fiftieth reunion and romp the campus like freshmen. They live for a glorious week in the land of fond memories. Their younger brothers, some of them the executives of large companies, the busiest of men, snatch a short respite from their toil, to better fit themselves to plunge anew into their affairs after a glorious home-coming. They come, young and old, from all parts of the continent, the appeal being nation-wide, and their goodwill renewed with every revival.

This picture is a little vivid, but comes directly from McGill men, who feel that a great deal of good arises from such association and activity. It would be folly to deny the fact that an alumnus derives pleasure and benefit by making his



college one of the big interests in his life, in common with thousands of others.

SEC.B.--(1) c. Loyalty of McGill Men.

To say that McGill men are not loyal to their Alma Mater would be to do them a great injustice. One need only glance at the results of the periodical drives which have taken place to see the tremendous support which the graduate body will offer in times of real need. There are very few, although they may criticise strongly, who would not be ready to stand behind McGill if they felt that she was, financially, in a dangerous state.

There is, however, a difference between dogged loyalty and working interest. The former, without the latter, may become severely strained by constant appeals, especially if conditions at the University continue over a period of time without marked improvement in the eyes of the graduate. The aim of the organisers of the Graduates' Society, to develop this interest, and to help McGill by helping her graduates, is not yet realised or appreciated by the majority.

SEC.B.-- (1) D. To give the Ordinary Student a Chance.

In the words of Mr. Beatty at the recent graduate smoker, "Canada needs trained men of character. Through the associations made in the University men and women are developed who are assets to their country". It is the duty of the university to see that all have equal chances and that all the students are encouraged to mix with each other. The star athlete or the man with outstanding ability as a freshman does not need any encouragement. The man who is lucky enough to join a fraternity is fortunate as far as college life is concerned. It is the ordinary student, the man who is not outstanding in any particular line, who needs the encouragement. These men are greatly in the majority and to obtain their support in the future, as graduates, it must be so arranged that their college years are as attractive as possible, so that they can look back on their Alma Mater with feeling.

There are hundreds of these men scattered throughout commerce, industry, and professional life today. They all feel that they have missed something through no fault of their own. There is no retrospective glamour. They remember only the classroom and the occasional football game.

SEC. B.-- (1) e. McGill's Duty

In the judgment of many it lies in the hands of the college authorities themselves to instil this spirit of relationship and interest, by providing facilities for the betterment of student relations. Pressure should be applied to the students while at university to cause them to mix with each other, and to create friendships that will endure.



The graduates feel that McGill's motto should be "Everybody in Something" rather than "Somebody in Everything".

SEC.B.--(2) Advantages and Disadvantages of Situation

McGill enjoys many advantages from her close association with Montreal. Opportunities to study business, the "new profession", factories, law courts and most important of all, hospital facilities, are there in abundance. Unfortunately these do not combine favourably with the human element. There are too many attractions of a worthless nature to occupy the time of the young student, alienating him from college activities. The one way of counteracting these influences is to exert considerable pressure in other directions. If this corrective force is to be applied, it should be through guiding the student body as a whole into more worthy recreations. In the speed of McGill's growth intellectual facilities have, unfortunately in the eyes of many, outstripped those of a physical and social nature.

SEC.B.-- (3) Facilities and McGill's Absence of -

SEC.B.-- (3) a. Gymnasium and Recreation Accommodation

McGill lacks, as yet, the means of drawing more than a limited number of students into athletics, or activities. With the Hart House of Toronto as an example of perfection, in combined gymnasium, pool, and meeting place of the student body, the centre of all activity on the campus, it is hard to consider McGill's position. In this respect all that remains to be said is that the graduates consider the absence of a gymnasium in a university the size of McGill, appalling.

SEC.B.-- (3) b. Dormitories.

The living accommodation problem at McGill is a grave one, which has supposedly been under consideration for some time. According to numerous suggestions, the provision of dormitories to take care of out-of-town students would present also the key to creating an interest that will endure. Spending the best four years of his life in a boarding house located in the commercial section of a metropolis, with limited companionship, is the proposition which confronts many a freshman and is the picture painted by numerous graduates. It is felt that these influences tend to undermine the career of many a youth.

SEC.B.-- (3) c. Fraternities.

Fraternities, although they help out the accommodation problem, furnish less than three hundred men with quarters.

It is questionable whether they are an asset to the college, or whether inclined to further impede real student life. They seem to find much favour at the American colleges, although Princeton, one of the most successful in maintaining alumni interest, bars them.



SEC.B.

It is difficult to compare McGill with universities in the States, as yet. The great majority of McGill graduates are non-fraternity ~~XXXXXX~~ men, most of them having strong contrary feelings. They claim that these groups tend to split up the college and to encourage cliques. Among the fraternity men there is great loyalty to their respective houses, many of them claiming that they are assisting McGill in subscribing to new fraternity houses which are being built on the campus.

It must be borne in mind that this may help the University, but reflects no credit on McGill, who, up to the present, has failed to recognise fraternities as part of the college.

SEC.B. (3) d. High Cost of Living at McGill

The lack of facilities at McGill has a tendency to widen the breach between the wealthy students and those who are partly working their way through college, and those who, while not working their way through college, have limited means. It has been mentioned by several graduates that they were unable, while at college, to take part in any activities because they could not afford them. The University is apt to become divided into groups according to financial standing, with the fraternity class out of reach of a great many owing to the limited funds which they have at their disposal. The only remedy for this state is to make McGill more residential by the introduction of dormitories, and to promote student activity that will cost the student as little as possible. At present everything is on an elaborate money-making scale, including athletic events, theatrical productions, student publications, and coupled with the high price of living in Montreal makes these events prohibitive for the student of limited means.

SEC.B.--(3) e. The Appeal to Prospective Students

It is the view of many that the appeal which the University holds for the prospective student should be considered very carefully, as upon this depends the standard of man who is afterwards going out into the world as a McGill graduate. In choosing a college at which to complete his education, the high school graduate does not only consider academic standing; there is also athletic standing, excellence of recreational facilities, living conditions, and, more important still, cost, to be observed.

To the prospective student the University cannot claim lack of funds because of not being aided by the Government. If he can afford to attend Toronto, and that university appeals to him, he will go there. Proximity is often the cause of men attending McGill, and often the cause of many undesirable students.



SEC.B.--(4) A Non-Residential College

Coupled with the lack of facilities and McGill's urban surroundings is the fact that the University is a non-residential one. A large percentage of students come from Montreal homes, consequently living at home, and unless connected with activities, have very little chance to become well acquainted with each other. The natural tendency is to attend lectures and to return home immediately. This is a factor which cannot be eliminated, but could be improved by the provision of a gymnasium and some really good place for the students to congregate. The former could be used for compulsory physical exercise, and the latter would, in replacing the inadequate Union, furnish the undergraduates with more incentive for getting together.

SEC.C.-- ACADEMIC

Neither does McGill's academic side escape the critical mind of the alumnus. There are graduates in nearly every faculty, Medicine being the exception, who have some little fault to find, either with their own education or with the present method.

SEC. C.-- (1) Medicine

The Faculty of Medicine reigns supreme, ranking among the first three schools in North America. This is due to unsurpassed hospital and research facilities. There is hardly room for complaint in this respect.

SEC.C.-- (2) Law.

The Law Faculty, to the distress of several practising legal men, is not following closely enough the practical side, but is endeavouring to develop into a cultural course. Its full-time staff of non-practising professors, without the prestige considered necessary by the "old school" and only acquired by years of practice, is the target of considerable indignation.

There are of course others, not in the legal profession, who believe that McGill, as a university, should have no faculties such as Commerce or Law, which training should be left to schools and not to seats of learning. Then again there are few who fail to mention the barn-like atmosphere of the Law Building. This is an important point to consider in view of the possible erection of another Science building. A large number of Montreal graduates are lawyers, and would be slow to support this movement, in view of the condition of their own building.

SEC. C.--(3) Arts.

Ambition is the chief fault charged to the Arts Faculty. Progress beyond the point of practicality is the cause of much unnecessary expenditure on "fancy courses". The departure from a classical education in favour of commercial and other subjects is a great mistake, in the opinion of many. One or two departments come under considerable indignant criticism, but specific reference would probably be out of place in this report, and is therefore avoided.



There are varied opinions about the Science faculty. Some aver that it is not sufficiently practical and that they were not very well fitted to enter the professional field on graduation. In the majority are those who take an almost opposite point of view, stating that they think the attempt is made to cover too much ground. The latter declare that the student can only hope to build a foundation while at University, and that he must start at the bottom in any case, when he graduates.

## SEC.C.--(5)

Commerce

Despite sparse unfavourable comment, the majority think that the Department of Commerce is a step in the right direction. Considerable inquiry is made from time to time about this course as a possible one for sons of graduates. There are many business and professional men who lament their lack of knowledge of Accounting and Commercial Law and Economics, with the feeling that they want their sons to have the advantage of knowing something of business principles.

## SEC.D.--

ATHLETICS

That athletics are a dominant interest in the community is a proven fact. That they ought to be an outstanding feature of college life and the subject of graduate enthusiasm is the opinion shared by a great many. The athletic policy adopted by the university during the past few sessions has caused considerable comment. A series of losing football teams goes a long way towards weakening graduate and public support.

In considering athletics from the graduates' point of view, the discussion must be limited practically to football and hockey. The reason for this is the tremendous publicity given to these sports as compared with those of a minor nature, and the absence of facilities for the latter.

The average graduate cannot see why McGill should turn out a losing football team year after year, with admittedly good material, when Queens' University can repeatedly win the title. You cannot blame the graduate for his indifferent attitude when he figures that probably bad management in athletics is the reflection of bad management elsewhere. More than one graduate has said that if the authorities would solve the coaching problem something would be accomplished towards ensuring a good attendance at the games.

The raising of prices to a prohibitive level with no reduction to graduates has kept many away from the games. Goodwill is an item which should not be neglected in the policy of the Athletic Board. Six thousand satisfied spectators at \$1.50, who will come again, are better than six thousand or more grumbling grads who swear that they will not attend another game and waste \$2.50. One graduate mentioned that he was reading the "News" and finding mention of athletics, he saw that McGill had won something like nine championships in obscure sports but had a hard time finding anything about the football. There are a few graduates who feel that McGill should break away from intercollegiate competition and put more men into action in intra-mural athletics.

## SEC. E.--

TREATMENT OF GRADUATES.



SEC.E.- (1) GRADUATES want PreferenceSEC.E.- (1)a. The Little Things

Since the future of the University depends largely on the goodwill of the graduate body, the McGill authorities should take great care, even go to expense, when necessary, to give preference to graduates. This is very easy in Montreal, where one quarter of the graduate body is situated, and there are functions connected with the college taking place all the time. Tickets at a reduced rate to these affairs, not only raises the graduate attendance, but makes the alumnus feel that his Alma Mater is taking an interest in his welfare. Hurting the feelings of one man by failing to do the little things will spread to the ears of others, while a combination of small courtesies will end in the big achievement.

This graphic representation of the BIG ACHIEVEMENT arising out of a combination of little things may be used to denote two truths concerning McGill and her graduates.

First, if McGill builds up the goodwill of the alumni bestowing upon them the numerous little courtesies possible she can some day expect a big achievement from them.

Secondly, this diagram may be used to denote the value which may arise out of the numerous small subscriptions from the graduates to the Endowment Fund.

SEC.E.- (1)b. Contracts

There has apparently been a veil of secrecy surrounding the allotment of contracts for McGill buildings in the past. The conviction of not one, but of several contractors and architects, is that fair consideration has not been given to McGill men when bidding on jobs at the University, that tenders were kept secret and that the work was not allotted to the lowest bidder. These allegations may be founded on misunderstanding, but in any case should bear suitable explanation.

SEC.E.- (1)c. Honorary Degrees

Further mention of the neglect of graduates by



SEC.E.-(1)c. McGill is noted when speaking of honorary degrees. The old adage of a man not being a prophet in his own country has been applied to McGill's awarding these honours. The feeling is that the authorities ought to recognise the achievements of their own graduates even more than those of men who may be famous, but who are strangers to McGill and its work.

SEC.E.-(2) The College and the Graduate - Summary

The purpose of the University is to produce alumni; it is no less the purpose of the college to retain the interest and the INTELLIGENT support of its alumni, that they can remain a vital factor in the constituency of the college. It seems that what the graduates can do for the community is the objective of the college.

Regarding the same question from another angle, the aim of McGill, or of any other university, is to render major service to its undergraduate. Following out that idea, the only reason for rendering service to its undergraduate is that he shall bring credit to himself after graduation, consequently serving his college and the community in which he lives.

(Explanation of the last chapter)

In a report on an Endowment Fund appeal this long and spirited discourse about McGill University and her short-comings, both theoretical and practical, may seem of an apparently needless nature. This, however, in the eyes of many alumni, is far from the case. There is a natural tendency for an individual, when asked for a subscription, to question thoroughly the cause which he is supporting. Any contemplation of a subscription to McGill exposes certain primary enquiries which have to be met with favourable response. These first investigations devolve, usually, on McGill herself.

SEC.F.-

INQUIRIES ABOUT MCGILL'S FINANCES

McGill's financial position to the casual observer is apparently sound. The average graduate does not realize that a combination of the tuition fees, endowment, and the negligible grant from the government, is insufficient, by many thousands annually, to cover expenditure. When impressed with this truth he is anxious to know just where the money goes and how it is administered. If he is of the opinion, and many are, that there is mal-administration in the University, he is reluctant to help until convinced to the contrary. There are many who express complete confidence in the administrators of any McGill fund to which they contribute, but unfortunately there are more who do not.

There have been so many inquiries about McGill and the Graduates' Society that they merit consideration separately and will be mentioned later, as a key to the information which should be circulated among the graduates in preparation for the fund appeal.



MEETING OF GRADUATES' ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

April 26th, 1932.

REPORT TO THE PRINCIPAL BY DR. MARTIN

Passed on three things:

1. To grant up to \$2500 for architects' fees in connection with plans for the gymnasium
2. To contribute not less than \$2500 a year to the maintenance of a gymnasium in event that it should be rebuilt.
3. We were not prepared to spend \$1200 or \$1500 for travelling expenses of campaign propagandists for the gymnasium until we knew there would be a campaign for a gymnasium.

D. McM