

FILE 145

MACDONNELL,

MAJ. GEN. SIR A.C.

September
Third
1920.

Major-General Sir Archibald Macdonnell,
K.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mack:-

I have your letter of the 1st telling me of the date of Seely's arrival a week from next Monday.

I hope that I shall be in Montreal on that day, although I am going to Toronto next week, and afterwards on to spend a day or so with my Mother at Strathroy. I am planning now to leave there on Sunday the 12th. If so, I shall be in Montreal on the 13th and will be very glad to meet Seely on his arrival. Should he spend any time whatever here, I shall be glad to pay him some attention.

I spoke to Mr. Birks, who is the Chairman of the Presidents of the Canadian Clubs in Canada, and advised him to recommend to the Canadian Clubs that Seely would be a suitable person to address them.

I am very glad that MacB. is taking such an interest in the R.M.C. Undoubtedly he is the man to be the directing influence in Canadian Military affairs. You will note that in the new organization, which became necessary after my leaving Ottawa, MacB. became the head of the Militia Council, and that the Inspector General has no seat on the Council. There are many reasons to justify this arrangement, and I am quite sure that my advice to Mr. Guthrie was sound.

- 2 -

I shall not overlook the fact that you are anxious to obtain the interest of the Canadian Clubs in the Royal Military College, and in my address of welcome to the Presidents of the Canadian Clubs next Monday here, I shall make some mention of what the R.M.C. stands for and its worthiness of consideration.

With all good wishes, and hoping to see you any time and every time you are in Montreal, I am,

Yours ever,



Kingston, Ont.

1st September, 1920.

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

My dear General,

I have now received a letter from General Seely stating that he and his son will arrive in Quebec on the "Prince Frederick Wilhelm" about the 13th instant. They leave Liverpool on the 6th September.

In view of the fact that they arrive at Quebec, I suppose it will not be possible for you to meet them on landing, but as they will have to change trains at Montreal en route to the West it may be that you will have the opportunity of extending a welcome hand to them.

MacBrien is taking a very sympathetic interest in the College, but in view of the financial stringency it is difficult to attain our objectives. I had a long talk about College affairs with Jim Elmsley, the new Adjutant-General, the other day.

I trust that all goes well with you and that
you find your appointment congenial in every way.

With kindest regards,

I am,

Sir,

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Macdonell

I am most anxious to get the Canadian
Clubs interested in the college, our one
Federal Institution. I don't quite know
how to go about it, but I am anxious
they should visit us, see what we
are doing & what we stand for,

If they are willing to assist us
in becoming in fact, as we are in
theory, the actual custodians of the
military traditions of Canada so
much the better. Help us to have on
our walls the makers of Canada
& those who have fought to gain or
to hold it for the crown.

I had in mind that Cdn Clubs
by provinces might establish a few
scholarships with us for the sons
of fallen soldiers. There is much
to be done. A.C.M.

September
Twentieth
1920.

Major-General A.C.Macdonnell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

I have your letter of the 18th instant and as one of the Trustees of the Bexhill Cups, I give my most cordial approval to their being formally handed over to the R.M.C. on October 6th, the occasion of your sports and of your birthday.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you many happy returns of that anniversary. That you will have many more years of usefulness I am quite sure, for there comes to my mind now one of your favourite expressions, namely, "that the devil is never in a hurry to take those of whom he is absolutely sure".

If the presentation takes place on October 6th, I am sorry that I cannot be present for I am leaving that day to visit the University of New York.

I hope you had a pleasant reunion with our friend Seely. I believe he was more anxious to visit you at Kingston than to visit any other place in Canada.

With all good wishes to yourself and to the College, I am,

Yours ever,



Kingston, Ont.

18th September, 1920.

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

Dear General:-

On the 18th May last Major Willis O'Connor wrote me, enclosing a letter from General Gunn, regarding the Bexhill Cups, and suggesting that the a function be held at which the Cups would be officially presented. There was no opportunity at that time for such a function and the matter was to be held over until this Autumn.

Would you be so kind as to let me know whether any further steps have been taken in this direction and if not if you have any suggestions to offer.

With kindest regards, *Yours Sir*

Yours sincerely,

A. B. Macdonell

*May I suggest 6th Oct prox, Sports day
& this old man's birthday.*

A. B. Macdonell

213
August
Fifth
1920.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Macdonell:-

I have your letter of the third instant telling me that our good friend the Right Honourable Sir J. E. B. Seely is about to visit Canada with his son.

In company with a great many other Canadians I shall be very glad to welcome General Seely, for I think I am right in saying that he was a general favourite with all with whom he came in contact. I am glad that you are welcoming him to the Royal Military College, and I feel sure that he will be delighted with what you have to show him. I shall endeavor to meet him when he lands and show him some personal attention. Probably before his departure something of a more formal character might be arranged.

With reference to Scroggie and Jeffrey, I am sure the only safe way of dealing with the cases of these two officers is that they be taken on the strength of the Royal Canadian Regiment. I have, on more than one occasion, recommended this to Hill, and hope that he has the good sense to see the advantage of acting accordingly.

Lady Currie joins me in all good wishes to Lady Macdonell and yourself.

Ever yours faithfully,



Kingston, Ont.

3rd August, 1920.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie,
G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal, McGill University,
MONTREAL.P.Q.

My dear General,

I have received a letter from Major-General the Right Honourable J.E.B. Seely, O.B. CMG. DSO. MP, our mutual friend, who says that he and his son John are coming to Canada at the end of August, going straight through to the Coast and then working their way back.

When I hear fuller particulars, I will let you know, but thought it possible that, as General Seely is such a splendid speaker, you might want him to address the students at McGill.

He certainly did well by Canada, and if there is anything we can do for him or any honour that we can confer on him, I for one would be all for it.

I am inviting him to stay with me at the College and we will give him a "show" with the Cadets.

I am still on the anxious "benches" about Scroggie and Jeffery. These two officers please me very much. They are not batting on last year's averages, but making good scores every day right now. It is not too much to say that they are invaluable here, each in his own Department, and I will not breathe easy until I have secured them some ^{permanent} appointment with adequate pay. At present they are running behind and getting in the hole every month, and with prices as they are, it cannot be otherwise with their meagre salary.

My esteems to Lady Currie.

I am, Sir, with kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Macdonell

January
Eighteenth
1921.

Major-General A.C. Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Macdonell:-

Let me first most cordially
reciprocate your good wishes.

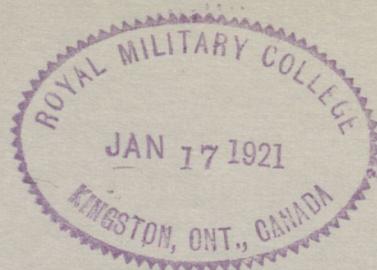
This letter of mine is simply a
brief acknowledgment of yours. I am extremely
busy at the present time, but in the course of
a few weeks I shall write you further in regard
to your splendid suggestion that the Canadian
Corps should consider favourably and act upon a
suggestion to erect somewhere a suitable Memorial
to those former comrades who did not return.

In the meantime I shall consider
the best way of getting action. I shall talk it
over with some of the chaps here and you may
expect to hear from me again shortly.

With all good wishes, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE
KINGSTON.



My dear General,

My respects and felicitations for 1921, and my heartiest congratulations upon the success of the splendid drive for grand old McGill.

I crave your indulgence for a few moments of your time on behalf of the dear old Corps, which I know is always nearest to your heart.

When I was at West Point the other day, I found a splendid Memorial in the shape of a pillar (a rude sketch of which I enclose) put up to the veterans of the Civil War.

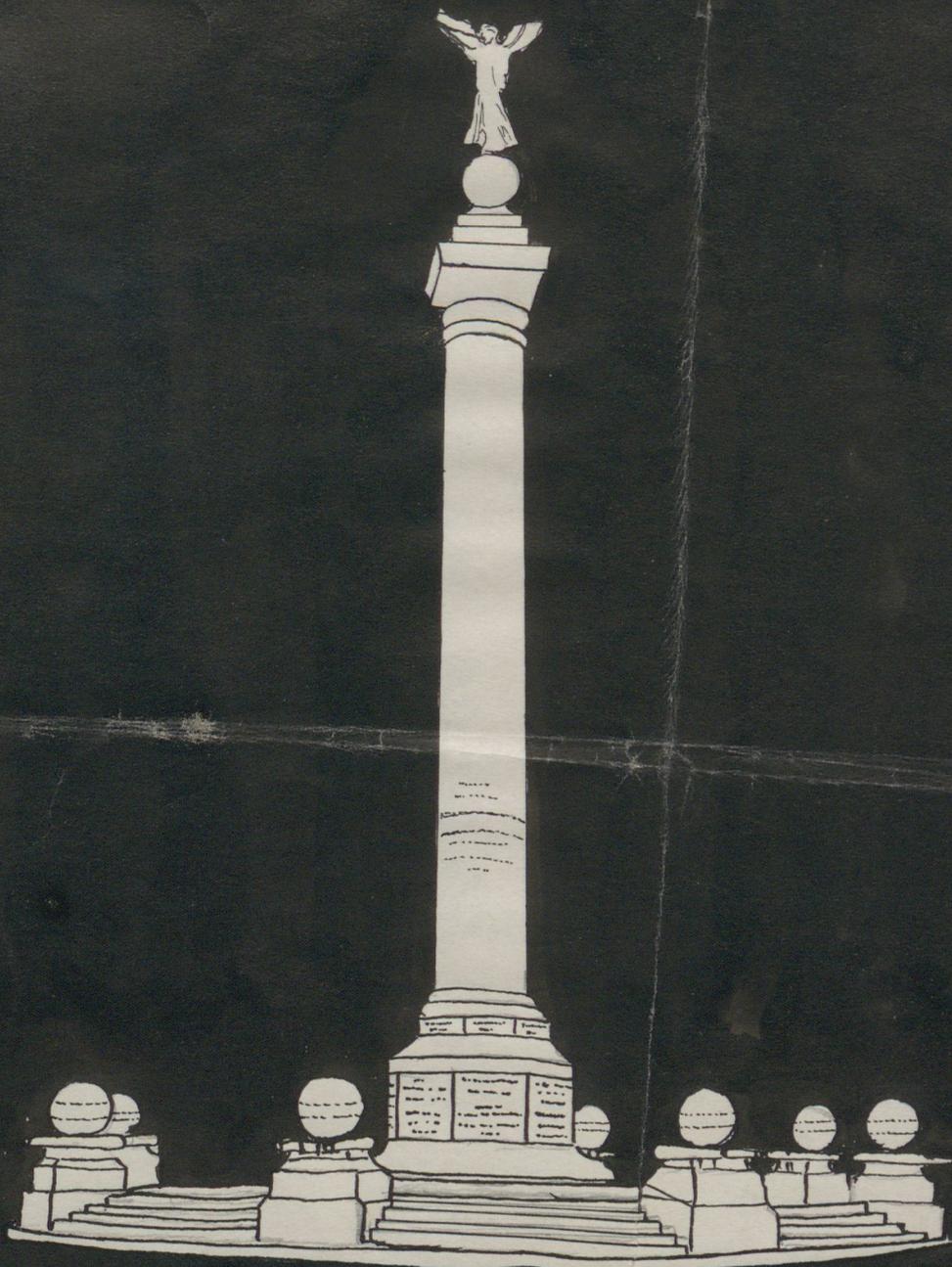
It seemed to be that it was about time we got busy on a Corps Memorial!!!!!! My own idea would be a small amount from everyone concerned, say 25¢ from each man and \$1.00 from each Officer. Just how it would be collected would be a problem, but I think it could be managed through Officers who commanded Battalions, through the present Militia Battalions who represent them, and through the Veterans' Organizations, and through men who do not belong to anything in civil life now, but who would be only too glad to do anything to help the Corps.

Will you please let me have your views on the subject?

I am, Sir,

With kindest regards and greatest respects,
yours sincerely,

Walter Macdonald Macdonald



2nd March, 1921.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonnell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Macdonnell,

I have received a letter from MacBrien telling me that at your suggestion the new Assembly Hall at the Royal Military College will be known as the "Sir Arthur Currie Hall." This most kind thoughtfulness on your part has touched my heart and I cannot find words to express to you, as I would like, my appreciation of the complement. To be associated with the Royal Military College in any capacity is an honourable privilege, but to have one of the halls bear one's name is a unique and valued distinction. It was so like your good self to think of such a thing.

Please accept my warmest thanks, with all good wishes to Lady Macdonnell and yourself, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

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Kingston, Ont.

3rd March, 1921.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie, GCMG. KCB., etc,
McGill University, Montreal. P.Q.

My dear General,

I appreciate your good letter very much indeed, and propose to publish it in the Orders of the Day.

I had hoped to have had the pleasure and honour of announcing to you that I had the authority from Militia Headquarters to name our Assembly Hall after my Chief, but I see that Irish abomination MacB: has anticipated me!!!!

After the Summer, the oak panels round the Gallery of the Hall will have painted on them the name, Regimental Number, badge, and battle-patch of every Unit of the Corps which was serving on the Western Front on the 11th November, 1918, as a representative of Canada, and I am hoping to get a grant from the Government which will enable me to put in the hall paintings of the Corps Commander and the Major-Generals on the Western Front; Wolfe, Montcalm, and several others.

I also hope to be able to put a brass plate at the entrance to the Hall, containing the inscription, -

THE SIR ARTHUR CURRIE HALL.

(In honour of General Sir Arthur W. Currie, GCMG. KCB., etc, etc, the victorious, native-born Commander of the Canadian Corps in the Great War.)

I expect shortly to receive large signed engravings from the King and Queen for the Hall, in recognition of the services of Ex-Cadets in the late war and previous wars.

I think I need scarcely tell you that a

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

.2.

Highland welcome awaits you whenever you can do us the honour of a visit.

I am so delighted that you are pleased with my idea, and I need scarcely tell you that as soon as I heard that we were to have an Assembly Hall, I made up my mind that it would be called "The Sir Arthur Currie Hall".

My respects and esteems to Lady Currie.

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

A. G. Macdonell

May
Ninth
1921.

Sir A. C. Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My deay Macdonell:-

I have also received your letter of the 5th instant, in which you ask me for one of the khaki uniforms actually worn by myself on the Western Front.

I shall be very glad to comply with this request. I do not know just when I can send it to you because most of my boxes containing my possessions are still in Ottawa. I have not definitely settled into a permanent home in Montreal and I have not yet brought the boxes here.

What you say about the Dominion Archives asking for them is rather amusing, as from that Institution I have received no request for anything.

With all good wishes and looking forward to seeing you at the beginning of next month,

I am,

Ever yours faithfully,



Kingston, Ont.

5th May, 1921.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie,
GCMG. KCB Etc.
McGill University, Montreal.

My dear General,

We hope, as our new buildings are erected, to form a College Museum, in which will appear trophies of war, armaments, old armour, obsolete arms, etc, which will be forwarded to us from our Ex-Cadets in all parts of the World, and with this end in view we are slowly gathering together the collection which will form the nucleus of what we desire shall eventually prove the most valuable collection of relics in the Dominion.

The object of this letter is to enquire whether you would be willing to let us have one of the khaki uniforms actually worn by you on the Western Front, in order that it may be added to the collection, now in our possession, of relics of the late and previous wars.

It is of course possible, that the Dominion Archives have already asked for this, or that it will eventually find a resting place in the Redpath Museum at McGill University, but unless you have made other arrangements, I sincerely trust that you will favourably consider the application of the Royal Military College of Canada.

With kindest regards,
I am, Sir,
Yours sincerely,

A. B. Macdonell

May
Ninth
1921.

Sir A. C. Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Macdonell:-

I have your letter of the 5th instant in which you honour me by asking me for an autographed photograph.

This I shall be very pleased to send to you as soon as a further supply arrives from England. I find that I have no more on hand of the kind you say you prefer.

Yours faithfully,



Kingston, Ont.

5th May, 1921.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie,
GCMG. KCB.,
McGill University, Montreal.

My dear General,

We have at last obtained the much needed rooms for the Superior Staff Mess of the College and they are now being fitted out under my personal supervision.

Since I have been at the College, I have felt most strongly that the only way in which the Superior Staff could be brought properly together was by the formation of a Staff Mess, where the Members could meet in a social manner and comfortably discuss the various matters in which they are interested. In the past, the only room available for this purpose has been the Committee Room, a dismal dark room, which was quite unsatisfactory for the purpose we wished.

We are very anxious, Sir, that prominent amongst the portraits in the Superior Staff Mess should be one of yourself, and I sincerely trust that you will honour the Mess by presenting an autographed photograph to us.

I am looking forward to showing you the Staff Mess on your approaching visit to Kingston.

With kindest regards,

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

*I like the one
you sent to the*

R.M.C Review

very much

A. G. Macdonell

A. G. M.

May
Tenth
1921.

Major General Sir A.C. Macdonell, K.C.B., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Macdonell:-

I beg to thank you for your letter of the 3rd of May and for your very great kindness in asking Lady Currie and myself to stay with you on the 3rd and 4th of June.

I am not sure whether I shall go from Montreal to Kingston or whether I shall arrive from the West. I am going to Toronto on May 29th to take part in some memorial function to General Mercer. It is more than likely that I shall go from there to spend a day or two with my mother at Strathroy and that I shall come direct from there to Kingston. I suppose I can get a train leaving Toronto on the morning of the 3rd of June which would arrive at Kingston at a convenient time.

I am very much interested in the programme which you have outlined and I wish to assure you that I am looking forward to the visit with the very greatest of pleasure. I am not quite certain whether Lady Currie will be with me or not. However, I shall let you know a little later.

With all good wishes and asking to be most kindly remembered to Lady Macdonell and your daughter,

I am,

Ever yours faithfully,



Kingston, Ont.

3rd May, 1921.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie, GCMG. KCB,
McGill University, Montreal. P.Q.

My dear General,

Have just received the good news that you are Chairman of our Board of Visitors and have accepted. We are all delighted.

I am hastening to let you know how pleased we are, and to ask you and Lady Currie if you will do us the honour of staying with us.

It is important that you should arrive by the 1.32 p.m. train on Friday, 3rd June, from Montreal. On Friday we have our Gymkhana, put on for the Board, which shows our 1st Class at Jumping, Vaulting, etc etc, and "man-at-arms" work, tent-pegging, use of sword, lance and revolver, etc.

In the evening we have a Smoking Concert in Fort Frederick, and presentation of Bexhill Cups by General Gunn.

On Saturday morning we have the strictly military inspections, Review Order with Colours, Mutual Instruction, Attack, Infantry, Cavalry, Squadron and Skeleton Regimental Drill, Artillery and Engineer demolitions

In the afternoon we will have a Gymnastic Display, an "Assault-at-Arms"; "at home" at our house, followed by a Staff Dinner at which the 1st Class will be present.

My idea is to let the Board really see what the Cadets can do, not just show a picked few. I hate eye-wash. I am trying to attain the standard "every man in every subject efficient every day".

We hope you can both come and I am more than looking forward to your seeing my "replicas of the old red patch".

.2.

I am very proud to tell you, Sir, I am to be
Honorary Colonel of the B.C.Horse (the old 5th Battaion);
also of the Stormont and Glengarry Highlanders, and
Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the Cameron Highlanders
of Canada.

My esteems to Lady Currie,

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

Archibald Cameron Macdonell

April
Nineteenth
1921.

Major-General Sir Archibald Macdonell, K.C.B., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

Thank you very much for your letter
of yesterday.

I am sorry that you will not be
with us Friday night, but the reason for your
absence is acceptable and you are forgiven this
time.

Colonel Webb of the 47th is the
movinf spirit regarding the dinner. I had a
short note from him this morning telling me that
Turner, Watson and Furstall would be present, and
also that he looked for the dinner to be a very
large gathering. I shall not forget to give your
message to all the members of the old "Red Patch".

I am glad to be able to tell you
that I hear nothing but good reports of the way
in which you are guiding the destinies of the
R.M.C.

Please remember me kindly to Lady
Macdonell and to your daughter, and with all
good wishes, I am,

Yours ever,



Kingston, Ont.

18th April, 1921.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie, GCMG, KCB.,
McGill University, Montreal, P.Q.

My dear General,

Long before the Re-Union in Montreal was mooted, I had accepted an invitation to go to my own old home town, Windsor, Ontario, and address the Chamber of Commerce and Collegiate Institute there, and attend several other functions. I fitted that engagement in with a banquet that I was asked to attend in Toronto and address -- the P.E.M.L.I. Service Club -- or rather, they fitted their date to suit me.

Confidentially, I may say to you that for some reason or other, when I came back from the Western Front, although I got a number of invitations to go to certain places, my own home town, where I was born, absolutely ignored me, so I am anxious to show them that I have no feeling in the matter.

I think the banquet is a splendid idea and I hope it will meet with the success it deserves. The very mention of it warms the cockles of one's heart. I need not assure you that I will be with you all in spirit. I realize that they will have the spirits!!!!!!

I sincerely trust that the banquet will be a tremendous success and in every way worthy of the grand old Corps.

Please give my best love to all old hands, with a little extra warmth in the hand-shake and a brightening of the eye for the men of the "old red patch".

With kindest regards,
I am, Sir,
Yours sincerely,

Archibald Cameron Macdonell

June
Eleventh
1921.

Gen. Sir A.C. Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear General:-

This is just a brief note to
acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 6th.

I note the points raised in it.
Before I leave for England I intend to write a
letter to MacBrien recording my impressions of
the work at the Royal Military College and I
shall send you a copy of that letter. The
formal report will not be presented to the De-
partment until after I return from England.

I cannot tell you how much I
enjoyed my visit to Kingston. The impressions
I received at the College were most pleasant
and satisfactory. In addition to that I enjoyed
very much having the opportunity of spending a
day or so with you personally.

Please remember me most kindly to
Lady Macdonell, whose great kindness I appreciated
very much, and to your daughter.

With all good wishes to them and
to you, dear Mac, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,



Kingston, Ont.

June 6th 1921.

My Dear General,

During your tour of the R.M.C. Buildings, on the occasion of your recent visit, the question of the cost of Maintenance of the Royal Military College was broached; and the fact that the Government had voted \$350,000 for the purpose appeared to be accepted as the cost of Maintenance for the year.

It seems to be generally accepted by most people that the amount placed in the R.M.C. Estimates, Voted by Parliament, is the cost to the country of maintaining this Institution. This however, is not the case and I am anxious to expose this fallacy.

The amount required to provide military uniform clothing, all educational material, washing and miscellaneous items, amounting to over \$50,000., (according to the number of Cadets in residence) has to be voted in the Main Estimates; but is repaid by the parents of Cadets from the amount deposited to their individual accounts.

The reason for voting the money in this manner is, that the Militia Department has to assume liability for payment of all the above mentioned material, which is distributed to the Cadets from our stores on repayment. But unfortunately the fact that this amount is repaid does not appear so prominently as the Estimate tabled for Parliament.

Then again each Cadet pays a fee of \$100., per annum, which although a very small amount to cover the tuition received, in the aggregate amounts to over \$16,000., per annum.

So you see that over \$66,000., per annum is recovered by the Government, This fact is not generally known.

Also in making a comparison between the cost of the R.M.C. and other Institutions receiving a Government grant, the fact that we Mess all Cadets is another factor that must be taken into account, this item costs approximately \$30,000 per annum.

I thought-

I thought you would probably like to be posted in this connection, and sincerely trust you will use it in favour of the old R.M.C., should an occasion arise in which it is necessary to do so.

With kindest regards,

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

A. E. Macdonnell

General. Sir. Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.
Mc Gill University,
Montreal. P.Q.



Kingston, Ont.

24th August, 1921.

General Sir A.W. Currie, GCMG, KCB, etc.,
McGill University,
Montreal, P. Q.

My Dear General:-

I am forwarding today, under separate cover, a photograph of the Board of Visitors and Staff of the College taken on the occasion of the meeting of the Board last June, which I trust will reach you safely.

Please accept this souvenir of your visit with the Compliments of myself, the Staff and Gentlemen Cadets.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

The Bronze Tablet
has just been erected *A. B. Macdonell*
over the entrance to the assembly hall
"The Sir Arthur Currie Hall"
named in honor of general
Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G. K.C.B., etc
the victorious native born commander
of the Canadian Corps in the Great War,
composed by one who asks for no greater honor than to
be known as one of Currie's fighting generals A.B.C.

August
Twenty-ninth
1921.

Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 24th addressed to General Sir Arthur Currie, and also a photograph of the Board of Visitors and Staff of the College taken on the occasion of the meeting of the Board in June last.

Sir Arthur has not yet returned from England and will doubtless desire to thank you himself for your thoughtfulness.

Yours faithfully,

Principal's Secretary.

September
Ninth
1921.

Major-General Sir A.C.Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

On my return from the Old Country this morning I had the pleasure of reading your letter of the 24th of August.

I thank you most sincerely for your kindness in sending me the photograph of the Board of Visitors and Staff of the Royal Military College. It has turned out very well and will form a nice souvenir of the pleasant two days spent with you in June. I also wish to thank you for sending me the wording of the bronze tablet which has been erected over the entrance of the Assembly Hall. I like the composition of the inscription very much, and I cannot tell you how much I appreciate the fact that the magnificent Assembly room of the College bears my name.

On the occasion of a lunch at Sir Campbell Stuart's in England I had the pleasure of sitting beside a Miss Macdonell who was most prominent in war work. We became fast friends as soon as I mentioned that I had as one of my divisional commanders an old ruffian who belonged to the Clan Donell. Every good and bad thing that I could remember about you I told her.

I also spent three days on the battlefields. Many people will tell you that you would hardly know that a war had taken place there so great has been the change, but that is not so. In the country east of Ypres, which bore so visibly the devastating marks of war, you will see many new farm buildings springing up, all built of red brick. Crops

General Sir A.C. Macdonell

- 2 -

have been raised on the battlefields and stacks of grain appear everywhere. Yet, it will be many long years before the area assumes anything like its normal appearance. At Hooge the owner of the Chateau has returned and has built for himself a very fine bungalow. A nice little village is springing up there. Just west of Hooge is a very large cemetery where some six or seven thousand men are buried. It has not been quite completed but it contains a very great many men of your old Brigade. I saw some cemeteries which were completed and they pleased me very much. The one at Remy Siding contains 11,000 graves. Each cemetery is enclosed by a stone fence. They have all been levelled and are covered with a green turf. A cement trough runs along the head of the graves and in the trough stand the slabs, all the same size and all of the same appearance. All Canadian slabs have the Maple Leaf, and a very fine impression of a leaf it is. Beneath the leaf is a Cross and the man's name, regiment and the date of his death. The features of the larger cemeteries are the Cross and the Altar, both very fine special monuments, but the smaller cemeteries have only the Cross. There are many individual unit monuments - such as your division monuments at Vimy - concerning which I think some action should be taken. I intend to write to MacBrien and suggest that the Government ask the War Graves Commission to replace those wooden monuments by stone, otherwise they will disappear in a year or two and I think that would be a grievous mistake.

I find that the people still retain the pleasantest recollections of the Canadians and look upon a Canadian visitor as an old friend.

General Sir A.C. Macdonell

- 3 -

I called at Villers Chapelle and they
desired to be most cordially remembered to you.
I have a great deal to tell you about what I saw there
but have not sufficient time to write further.

With all good wishes, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,



Kingston, Ont.

27th September, 1921.

General Sir Arthur W. Currie, GCMG. KCB.
McGill University, Montreal. P. Q.

My dear General,

Please forgive the long delay in acknowledging the receipt of your welcome letter of the 9th instant. I have been desperately busy during the past few weeks, and have been called away several times to Ottawa, Toronto, and Picton; and other places; with the result that my correspondence is badly at fault.

Then, several matters in connection with the interior economy of the College have occasioned me a certain amount of worry, to which has been added the preparations for Cavalry Week, which is now in full swing. The visit of His Excellency the Governor-General last week necessitated much extra work and the adjusting of our programme to fit in with that of the Picton people; in consequence of all which, I have been kept incessantly busy.

I am sure that I have lost the esteem of at least one of my kinswomen as a result of her conversation with you at lunch!!!! *I don't think!*

I imagine that your visit to the Western Front must have been most interesting, and I would have liked to have made the trip with you. I am afraid that the opportunity for me to pay a visit to France and Belgium again will not occur until I have completed my tenure of command at the R.M.C. Many thanks for conveying to me the greetings from Villers Chapelle. I do hope that all goes well there.

The Superior Staff are deeply grateful to you for your kindness in sending the splendid portrait of yourself for the Mess. It will be proudly hung in a very prominent place and will be highly treasured by each individual Member of the Mess.

I am hoping to be able to visit Montreal

.2.

on the 11th November, for the purpose of being present at the Unveiling of the Memorial Windows to the memory of Bart McLennan and the 42nd Canadian Battalion, but my plans are rather indefinite. If it is humanly possible to do so, however, I shall make the trip, for dear old Bart was one of the best, and the 42nd was one of the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade.

With kindest regards,

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

A. B. Macdonnell

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

23rd November, 1921.

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

Sir,

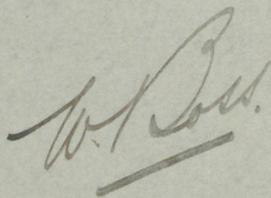
I have the honour to thank you for your kind acknowledgement of the British Waig which I had the privilege of forwarding to you.

It is a source of great satisfaction to the returned men, Sir, that they have in General Macdonell an Officer who will express on their behalf their appreciation of the Canadian Corps Commander.

With many thanks for your kindness and consideration in writing to me,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



S.M.(W.O.)

November
Nineteenth
1921.

Sergt.-Major Boss,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

Dear Boss:-

Thank you very much for your
courtesy in sending me the copy of the 'British
Whig' of the issue of November 11th.

Reading all those messages brings
back to one's mind very vividly the close
associations of the years 1914-18. My old friend
Macdonell is always too kind in his references
to myself, but he possesses one quality which is
very loveable. He is always extremely loyal to
his associates. I am sure the students at R.M.C.
find him a fair, square man who is always trying
to do what is right and who, by precedent and
example tries to inculcate the very best ideals.

With all good wishes for your
continued success, I am,

Yours faithfully,

December
Sixth
1921.

Major-General Sir A.C.Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

I am sorry I have not answered
your letter of the 26th of November before this.

I am writing to Willis O'Connor
to send you an exact description of the guidon
carried by the Corps, as I believe Willis has
several of them stored away.

I know that I have none. In fact
the few odds and ends that I was bringing home
as souvenirs have largely disappeared. When I
left England, judging by the number of boxes in
my name, I concluded that I had a very fair amount
of relics, but I think now that many things were
brought home in my name which formed the private
loot of orderlies, grooms, clerks and even A.D.Cs.
These boxes were done up in 1919 in England, but
on opening one the other day I was very disappointed
at the amount of stuff it contained and somewhat
surprised to see the space filled up by all sorts
of paper rubbish, which contained an issue of
"Jack Canuck" of June, 1920.

I will ask Willis to give you the
information as soon as possible.

With all good wishes to Lady Macdonell
and yourself, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

26th November, 1921.

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

My dear General,

In connection with the decoration of "The Sir Arthur Currie Hall" with the badges, battle-patches, names etc, of Canadian Units serving in France, in order to complete the panel allotted to Canadian Corps Headquarters, we are anxious to obtain definite information regarding the guidon carried by Corps.

Will you be so good as to help us in the task we have undertaken by furnishing a description of the Canadian Corps Guidon.

With kindest regards,

I am, Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

A. C. Macdonell

I remember when
we entered Germany
the Corps guidon
& 1st Bde Div
fⁿ were carried
side by side behind
us
A.C.M.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

11th March, 1922.

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

My dear General,

I am enclosing with much pleasure a photograph taken of a painting suggesting the best method of painting and decorating The Sir Arthur Currie Hall. The picture has lost much of its charm by having been photographed, and I can assure you that the blending of the colours on the original makes the Hall appear a thing of beauty and something of which everyone may well be proud.

The dado is to be green, the walls old gold, and the ceiling buff, whilst the ornamentation on the ceiling will be red and green with gold lettering. Around the walls are bayonets with the shields of the several Provinces hanging below. The curtains at the stage are a ruddy brown.

These suggestions have been made by Professor Percy Nobbs of McGill, who visited us recently for the purpose of conferring with us regarding the suitable and artistic decoration of the buildings.

It will be impossible for us to accomplish all the work at once, but we are going ahead with the badges, names, and battle-patches on the panels, and the shields of the Provinces will soon be in place.

The Public Works Department will not allow us to paint the Hall for about another year and I hope by that time to have funds available to complete the task in a proper manner. We are, however, making a desperate effort to complete the stage this year.

I think that eventually you will find that the Hall will be a credit to the splendid old Corps and to our "native-born victorious Commander".

The artist has just finished copying your painting in the National Art Gallery (which was loaned to us for a year) and the copy, which is a splendid one, has been for some days on view in an Art Store on Princess Street here. It is now at the College.

With kindest regards,
I am, Sir,
Very sincerely yours,

Archibald Cameron Macdonell

THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

In the following statistics will be shown the Record of the R.M.C., unique in its showing of an average of one in six killed and of two decorations for every three men engaged.

over 500 were wounded.

Number of Cadets taken on the College Books, who had left the College by November 11th, 1918.	1336.
Number of Ex-Cadets 55 years old and over on August 4th, 1914.....	14
Number of Ex-Cadets who had died before August 4th, 1914.....	96
Number of Ex-Cadets discharged from the College as Medically unfit.....	17
Number of Ex-Cadets who became medically unfit, after leaving College and prior to the war. Approx	14
Number of candidates who did not actually join the College.....	43
Number of Ex-Cadets, who remained at the College six months only, or under (excluding Cadets taking the Special War Course.....)	16

TOTAL OF ABOVE..... 200

NUMBER OF EX-CADETS WHO SERVED DURING THE LATE WAR.....	1136
Leaving a total to be accounted for of.....	982
	<u>154</u>

Out of this 154, it has been impossible to get any record of 75%.

147 CADETS ARE KNOWN TO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE LATE WAR AND 11 IN PREVIOUS WARS.

The following is the approximate number of Decorations won by Ex-Cadets in the late and previous wars:

V.C. 1.	Recommended for V.C. 3:	K.C.B. 6:	C.B. 22:	K.C.S.I. 1.	C.S.I. 1.	K.C.M.G. 3.	C.M.G. 61
C.I.E. 2.	M.V.O. 1.	D.S.O. 136.	One bar to DSO. 7.	Two bars to DSO. 2.	K.B.E. 1.	C.B.E. 6	
O.B.E. 27	M.C. 134.	One bar to M.C. 2.	D.F.C. 5.	A.F.C. 1.	V.D. 1.	C.A.F.O.D. 11.	
C.A.F.L.S.M. 6.	Kaisir-I-Hind. 2.	Medjidieh. 3.	Order of the Nile. 2.	Royal Humane Society Medal 1.			
Royal Canadian Humane Society Medal 1.	A.D.C. to E.M. the King. 3.						

Foreign Decorations, over 100, including the following Countries:- France, Belgium, U.S.A. Greece, Serbia, Russia, Japan, and Portugal.

EX-CADETS. Lieut-Generals. 2: Major-Generals, 15: Brig-Generals. 26:

R.G. 2, C. 38, File 145

Photo of Sir Arthur Currie Hall,
Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario

Taken for Photo Inventory

Sept. 29, 1993.

March
Thirteenth
1922.

General Sir Archibald C. Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

I thank you very much for your letter of the 11th of March with the photo. of the Sir Arthur Currie Hall at the R.M.C.

Professor Hobbs was telling me about his visit to you and of the plans for the decoration of the Hall. It gives promise of being a most attractive room. I cannot tell you how proud I am to have my name associated with it. Furthermore, I know exactly to whom I am indebted for this honour.

I hope that both you and Lady Macdonell are well and that your daughter has fully recovered from the effects of the operation for appendicitis.

Shall I see you in Toronto on April 6th, when I believe there is to be a dinner to celebrate the anniversary of Ypres, 1915?

With all good wishes, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

April
Twelfth
1922.

Major-General Sir A.C.Macdonell, K.C.B.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac.:-

I have only time for a word or two. I was sorry that I did not see you last Saturday in Toronto.

I hardly know what to say about the dinner. As an exhibition of comradeship and good fellowship it was all that could be desired, but whether our officers' reunions are to turn into wild hilarious nights is a matter about which there may be two opinions. I thought Toronto was a little worse than Montreal along those lines.

On Sunday evening I visited a Home for Incurables where I ran across a boy named Heath of the 13th Bn. He asked me if I knew where he could get one of the old Red Patch buttons and I promised him that I would do what I could. If you have one to spare please send it along to me. I had an extra one but I gave it away this summer to a boy whom I met in London, England and who was very anxious to have the button.

Griesbach was in to see me last Monday night, looking very well and feeling quite chirpy. We had a long chat and your ears must have tingled more than once.

Sir A.C.Macdonell

- 2 -

I am looking forward to seeing you when the Board of Visitors make their annual visit. Please advise me well ahead when you expect us and what the programme is likely to be.

Yours faithfully,

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ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

24th April, 1922.

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

My dear General,

Many thanks for your kind letter
of congratulations.

I am enclosing for your information
a copy of a letter which I am sending this date to
General Mewburn. It may be of interest to you.

With kindest regards,

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Macdonell

Encl.

24th April, 1922.

Major-General
the Honourable S.C. Mewburn, K.C.,
Hamilton, Ontario.

Dear General Mewburn,

My opinion has been asked as to where the main memorial of the Canadians should be placed and whether I would concur in it being placed on Vimy Ridge.

If it is placed on Vimy Ridge because that is a very prominent place and in view of the greater amount of traffic passing along the Lens-Arras Road, I have no objection to it being placed there, but I don't think that any Divisional Commander would consider that Vimy Ridge, great victory and all that it was, was by any means our outstanding engagement.

Vimy Ridge was a set piece, for which we had practiced for weeks and it was the first time the Canadians had ever really had a chance to prepare like that for a battle; but it did not call for the initiative and the resourcefulness, etc etc, that Amiens displayed, - the fighting for the Jump off to the *breaking of the* Drocourt-Queant Line and the breaking of the Canal du Nord.

However, if the Committee consider, for the reasons given above, that Vimy Ridge is the more suitable place, I concur.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

A. C. M.

MEMO. RE. ADJUTANTS.**Foreword.**

Can't you see him crossing the Barrack Square? Bright, alert, soldierly. Here a word of praise, there a word of blame, but all exhilarating! A real soldier man, the walking and talking encyclopaedia of regimental customs and traditions, interior economy, drill and discipline. Bold, steadfast, just, full of common sense, well understanding 'The letter killeth but the **spirit** quickeneth'. The personification of soldierly loyalty and regimental efficiency; full of forethought; - good manners, good organizer, good soldier, good man-at-arms, good sportsman.

In choosing.

Apply the acid test: (a) Character; (b) Intelligence; (c) Experience; (d) Manners.

His dress, general appearance, soldierly bearing, saluting, riding, etc, must satisfy his C.O., whose mouthpiece and mirror he is, otherwise there will be a rift in the lute from the start in the shape of fault-finding on these points by the C.O. The Regimental Staff must be one and indivisible.

In **(a) Character**, the more he possesses the qualities that give us influence over other men the better. I allude to absolute straightness, absence of side, sense of humour, faith and sympathy.

In **(b) Intelligence**, he must be quick to grasp the point, receptive to new ideas, and have not only a good retentive memory, but what soldier men call "an Adjutant's memory", that small voice within you that says "Beware, You've forgotten something". Think it out! Remember it somehow, or things will go wrong and the C.O. and Regiment will be disgraced.

In **(c) Experience**, he must be recognized by his brother officers as the equal of all and the superior of most in all regimental duty, interior economy, drill, discipline, military procedure and law. Having grasped the difference between a mistake and a crime; that he has eye-lids as well as eyes; that he does not himself command the Regiment but is the mouth-piece of the C.O., whom he enables, by his systematic, thorough grasp of office work and all detailed work and clearly issued orders, tact, forethought and organizing powers, to devote his full time to drilling, training and fighting his Regiment, untrammelled by other worries.

His **experience** as a Regimental officer must be thorough enough to

have taught him non-interference, coupled with closest liason with the Company Commanders, with whom he must keep on the most cordial terms.

(d) **Manners** includes tact. He must have acquired reticence. Now reticence in an Adjutant is the art of chatting cheerily with others without disclosing secrets, in other words "spilling the beans" Bart Rogers.

The Adjutant who goes around with a self-important bearing and pursed-up lips "I could tell you lots, but I won't" sort of air should be fired instanter. They are trouble makers.

ADJUTANTS

Lacking technical knowledge of their work and who don't remedy the defect quickly.

Who write too much.

Interfere with Company Commanders unjustifiably.

Assume they have a position of command.

Create friction

Give away secrets.

SHOULD BE DISPENSED WITH.

Some times in a Regiment, an Officer otherwise thoroughly well suited to the position, full of forethought and good organizer, falls down on say, Drill. It may then be better to retain him and supplement his defect by a junior who is an expert in that as an Assistant.

a. c. macdonell
Adjut R. M. C. major 



Kingston, Ont.

13th May 1922.

Dear General Currie,

I have just received word from the Honourable G.P.Graham, Minister of Militia & Defence, that he will arrive at Kingston, Ont., on Wednesday next, 17th instant, at 4.30pm., DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME, and proceed to the Royal Military College at 5.30pm, daylight saving, to open the Sir, Arthur Currie Hall.

The work on the Hall has now been completed, and the general opinion is that we have now a very beautiful Memorial Hall.

I hasten to let you know the time set for the official opening, as I could do nothing before until I heard from the Minister. I am overjoyed at its fitting in with your visit for the 21st Battalion Banquet, as it ensures your presence, and to open it otherwise would be the Play of Hamlet without Hamlet.

I am, Sir,
very sincerely yours,

A. G. Macdonnell

General, Sir, Arthur W. Currie,
KCMG., KCB.,
McGill University,
Montreal, P.Q.

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THE SIR ARTHUR CURRIE HALL

T H E

S I R A R T H U R C U R R I E

H A L L.

THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

Kingston, Ontario.

With the set purpose of inculcating a proud and true Canadianism, and to ensure that the glorious traditions of the Canadian Corps will be perpetuated; that the Regiments which formed part of this galaxy of fighting men will not be forgotten by the generations of the future; that the emblems worn by the Canadian Corps may be an incentive and an inspiration to the highest ideals of citizenship; the decoration of this Hall has been carefully and thoroughly undertaken."

The Sir Arthur Currie Hall was formally opened on Wednesday, 17th May, 1922, by the Honourable C.P.G. Graham, Minister of Militia and Defence. General Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., was present at the ceremony.



THE SIR ARTHUR CURRIE HALL.

APPROACH.

Immediately on entering the Educational Building, the visitor is invited to inspect the portraits of The Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, one time Premier of Canada and the Founder of The Royal Military College of Canada; and Lieut-General E. O. Hewitt, CM.G. the first Commandant of the College, who guided the destiny of the R.M.C. from its foundation in 1875 until May, 1886.

Attention is also directed to the old brass ship's gun, made in 1810 and used during the war of 1812-14. On the opposite side of the Hall is the British pom-pom, used in the South African war, but discarded prior to 1914.

Near the old brass cannon will be seen a Naval Officer's sword, which was carried by Captain J.F. Spilsbury, who sailed with Sir James Yeo's fleet in Lake Ontario during the war of 1812-14. The sword of this British Naval Officer was presented to The Royal Military College by Dr. Spilsbury, his grandson, of Yonkers, N.Y.

STAIRCASE.

On ascending the Staircase leading to The Sir Arthur Currie Hall (Main floor) the oil paintings of General Wolfe (left) and General Montcalm (right) will be noticed. These officers, as is well known, commanded the British and French respectively at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham. Both the victorious Commander and the defeated Commander were killed in this action.

Note also the German minnerwerfers captured by Canadian troops in the war of 1914-1918.

The attention of visitors is now directed to the autographed portraits of Their Majesties King George V and Queen Mary. These engravings were

specially presented to The Royal Military College by His Majesty the King to be hung in the approach to The Sir Arthur Currie Hall and in recognition of the large numbers of Ex-Cadets who served in the late war and previous wars, 170 of whom paid the supreme sacrifice.

Above the door of the Hall will be noticed a bronze tablet, bearing the following inscription:-

THE SIR ARTHUR CURRIE HALL. Named in honour of General Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., the victorious native-born Commander of the Canadian Corps in the Great War, 1914-1918.

THE HALL.

On entering the Hall, the visitor will first perceive on the right of the entrance, the only oil painting on the ground floor, a portrait of General Sir Arthur W. Currie, GCMG. KCB, after whom the Hall is named.

On the oak panels surrounding the Gallery (132 in all) there are painted in oil colours the badge and battle-patch of the Units which represented Canada on the Western Front. Nearest the stage, on the right, are the emblems of the 1st Canadian Division - "The Old Red Patch" - the Old Guard Division of the Canadian Corps, that set the pace from Valcartier to the Bridge-Head at Cologne and furnished 'originals' as Generals and Leaders to the other Divisions as raised; the 1st Canadian Division, of whom the Corps Commander said, "The proudest thing I can say to you is that the 1st Division remained the first until the end."

The Brigades of "The Old Red Patch" are typical of Canada: the 1st, or ONTARIO Brigade, with the famous 1st, the "Proud Old 2nd", 3rd and 4th Battalions; the 2nd All Red WESTERN Brigade, with its equally famous

5th (or Western Cavalry) Battalion, 7th B.C., 8th and 10th Battalions; the 3rd (or HIGHLAND) Brigade, with its splendidly staunch 13th Royal Highlanders of Canada, 14th Royal Montreal Regiment, 15th (48th Highlanders) of Toronto and 16th Battalion Canadian Scottish (representing Vancouver, Winnipeg and Hamilton) all names to conjure with, famous in song and story.

Nearest the stage on the opposite side of the Hall are the badges of the 2nd Division; further back are the badges of the 3rd Division, with its French grey battle patches and the 4th Division with olive-green flashings. It is worthy of mention that the 3rd Division adopted the colour French Grey because it was the only Canadian Division actually formed in France.

In the rear of the Hall and facing the stage are the insignia of the Canadian Corps Headquarter Troops and the Canadian Cavalry Brigade.

All the Battalions are equally famous and many of the badges are of historic interest, but it is regretted that in such a small pamphlet as this, mention cannot be made of all the crests which appear on the panels. Visitors will notice the crest of the Royal North West Mounted Police amongst those of the Canadian Corps Troops. This famous Corps sent a Squadron to France and another Squadron to Russia.

Another famous badge is that of the 22nd French Canadian Battalion (2nd Division) which, in recognition of the French ancestry of its members, adopted the motto "Je me souviens" - "I will remember". Their ancestors having left the homeland for New France three hundred years ago, their descendants returned to France to help in driving back the invader.

Yet another interesting badge is that of the 8th Battalion, 1st Canadian Division, the device being a little black devil, with tail and trident, bearing the motto - "Hosti acie Nominati" - "Named by the enemy". The Battalion received this title

from the half-breed rebels in the North-West Rebellion of 1885 and records show that they justified their right in the late war to be called "The little black devils".

The badge of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry will be admired. This Battalion, named in honour of Her Royal Highness Princess Patricia of Connaught, at that time residing in Ottawa as the daughter of the Governor-General, Field Marshal H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, consisted of experienced fighters and was the first Canadian Regiment to reach the fighting front. Close to it will be seen the badge of The Royal Canadian Regiment, Canada's famous Permanent Force Infantry Regiment, which had four battle honours on its Colours prior to 1914, and still clings to the monogram of the Gracious Lady who gave it the title of "Royal" - V.R.I. - Victoria Regina Imperatrix - Queen Victoria the Good. Another badge is that of the "Gallant 49th" Edmonton Battalion, with its windmill crest, which earned its soubriquet in 1916.

In the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade will be seen the badge of the 43rd Cameron Highlanders of Canada, with the Scottish lion rampant and the St. Andrew's Cross in the background.

Amongst the badges of the 4th Canadian Division will be seen the splendid crest of the 85th Nova Scotia Highlanders, with its striking motto "Siol na fear ferail" - descendants of manly men"; a just tribute to the courageous and resourceful Highlanders, the first settlers in Nova Scotia.

Here also will be seen in each Division the badge of the gallant and efficient Artillery Units, with the appropriate and wonderful motto - Ubique - "Everywhere"; and the Machine Gunners badge, the Unit which performed hazardous, deadly and dangerous service. The Engineers' badge in each Division should be noted, for this was the Service which exemplified the knowledge and scientific work of

Canadian Universities, coupled with the national initiative and resourcefulness.

The badges of the Army Medical Corps, Army Service Corps, and Army Veterinary Corps, and the Ordnance Corps will be noticed. These Units for their splendid work were given the title "Royal" by His Majesty the King on the conclusion of the Great War.

The Medical Corps were responsible for almost all the reforms on the Western Front

The dignified and neat maltese cross of the Chaplain Services amongst the badges of Canadian Corps Troops, might, like the gallant work of the Padres, pass un-noticed unless mentioned in this pamphlet. The Chaplains of necessity worked in the shade, but in soldier-man's talk, they "delivered the goods" unceasingly, and besides bringing comfort to many a khaki-clad hero, performed deeds which in any combatant branch would have been instantly recognized; deeds which, because of their non-combatant rank, had to be done quietly and spontaneously, and too often passed unnoticed.

Attention is finally called to the badge of the Regiment raised by the late Lord Strathcona for service in South Africa and on its return constituted as a Regiment of the Permanent Force - "Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)". Lord Strathcona's Horse proceeded overseas in 1914 and remained in Belgium until 1919. The badge of the Regiment embodies the coat-of-arms of Lord Strathcona, with its motto of "Perseverence".

The badges and battle-patches were painted on the panels by Major D. Stuart Forbes, M.C., RCMGB, as his free gift to the Royal Military College.

On the walls of the Hall, above the gallery and over the badges of their respective commands, are oil paintings of the Divisional Commanders, reading, commencing from the stage, in the following order:-

STAGE.

LEFT.

Lt-Gen. Sir H.E. Burstall,
KCB. KCMG. ADC.
An Ex-Cadet of the RMC.
GOC, 2nd Canadian Divn.

Lt-Gen. Sir REW Turner,
VC. KCB. KCMG. DSO.
GOC, Cdn Troops in England.

Major-Gen. Sir D. Watson,
KCB. CMG.
GOC, 4th Canadian Divn.
(Died in Quebec. Jan. 1922.)

RIGHT.

Major-Gen. Sir A.C. Macdonell,
KCB. CMG. DSO.
A Graduate of the R.M.C.
GOC, 1st Canadian Division.

Major-Gen. L.J. Lipsett, CB. CMG
GOC, 3rd Canadian Division.
(Killed in action. 1918)

Major-Gen. Sir F.O.W. Loomis,
KCB. CMG. DSO.
GOC, 3rd Canadian Division.

The design at the back of the stage is emblematic of the British Empire. Note the Royal Crown, and the ornamental effect including the rose of England, the thistle of Scotland, the shamrock of Ireland and the maple leaf of Canada. The fleur-de-lys of France pays tribute to New France - French Canada; hand-in-hand with the other Provinces as an integral part of the British Empire, the exclusion of the fleur-de-lys would spoil the whole effect and meaning.

Attention is directed to the lambrequin above the stage, which is the artistic work of Mrs. Stuart Forbes, who, besides helping her husband with the painting of the badges, worked the design of the British Lion on the lambrequin.

Around the walls of the ground floor are the coats-of-arms of the different Provinces of Canada: Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the Yukon Territory. By means of the plan at the back of this pamphlet, visitors may observe the order of arrangement, which is the order in which the different Provinces came into Confederation. These designs were painted by Lieutenant E.T. Adney, C.E.

The designs painted on the roof include the monograms of the famous Generals of the Canadian Corps, including Generals Alderson, Byng, Currie, Lipsett, Mercer, Watson, Turner, Burstall, etc. The position of each monogram is indicated on the appendix attached hereto. The decorative scheme includes also the Royal Canadian coat-of-arms, the crest of the Prince of Wales, and the monogram of Their Majesties the King and Queen.

On the soffit of the Gallery will be noticed a number of coats-of-arms. These are the armorial bearings, heraldically correct, of the principal cities with which the Canadian Corps was associated and attention is invited to the attached plan showing the order in which they are placed.

It was found that a number of cities and towns had no coats-of-arms, and therefore the selection had to be made to contain only places of which coats-of-arms were available.

QUEBEC, which is the first coat-of-arms, is the place where the first Canadian Contingent assembled in Canada; DEVONPORT, where they landed in England, and SALISBURY where they were organized. ST. NAZAIRE is the place where they landed in France.

MONS was the last place entered by Canadians during the war. The 42ns Royal Highlanders of Canada (allied with the Black Watch) was the first Regiment to enter Mons on the 11th November, which was captured in the early morning of that day by the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade. The 42nd Royal Highlanders (Black Watch) British Army, was the last Regiment to leave Mons during the heavy fighting of 1914.

PARIS is shown because it was visited by so many Canadians; BOULOGNE is shown as the port through which so many Canadians passed, and LONDON, England as the city which all Canadians visited.

For the work on these coats-of-arms, The Royal Military College is indebted to Professor Ramsay Traquair, F.R.I.B.A., of McGill University, who, with

several students of McGill visited the College and painted the armourial bearings on the soffit.

It may be mentioned that the original design for decorating The Sir Arthur Currie Hall in an appropriate manner is the work of Professor P.E. Nobbs, M.A., R.C.A., an authority on architecture and decorative art. Professor Nobbs visited the College in the spring of 1922, and in company with the Commandant carefully inspected the Hall, learned of the ideas the authorities had in connection with its decoration, and drew up sketches, designs and specifications, which have been carefully followed.

The visitors will now leave the Sir Arthur Currie Hall and proceed up the staircase, on one side of which are portraits of the various Commandants who have guided the destinies of the College, and on the other side the Staff Adjutants who have held tenure of office from time to time.

On the landing will be noticed many interesting things. Probably the most attractive to the visitors will be the four small flags affixed to lances. These were the guidons of the Divisional Commanders in France, and are placed in the order of their seniority in the Corps; 1st Division, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Divisions. It will be noticed that the emblem of the 1st Division was a red patch, cut by a small strip of white; that of the second an oblong of blue bearing the device C.II; that of the 3rd a gold dumb-bell; and that of the 4th, a maple leaf on an olive green background.

Close at hand is one of the German anti-tank guns, invented by the enemy after the tank had made its appearance on the Western Front. Notice the large bore of the rifle and the three holes in the bolt for gas release.

Some early patterns of trench mortars are also to be seen on the landing.

The three oil paintings on the left are worthy of attention. Nearest the window is a marvellous

oil painting of General the Honourable Sir Sam Hughes, K.C.B., who was Minister of Militia and Defence in 1914 and assembled the 1st Contingent at Valcartier. Experts have declared this painting to be a masterpiece and true to life. In the centre is a small oil painting of Major-General the Right Honourable J.E.B. Seely, C.B.C.M.G., D.S.O. General Seely was at one time War Minister in England, and later commanded the Canadian Cavalry Brigade. The third painting is that of Brig-General R. Brutinel, C.M.G., D.S.O., the gallant French-Canadian Commander of the Machine Gunners.

On the opposite side of the wall are paintings of Brig-General D.M. Hogarth, C.M.G., D.S.O., Quartermaster General of the Canadian Forces, (nearest the window) and Brig-General J. Ross, C.M.G., Paymaster General of the Canadian Forces. These five paintings have been kindly loaned to the R.M.C. by the Directors of the National Art Gallery of which Sir Edmund Walker, K.C.V.O. is President.

Two splendid paintings by Kenneth Forbes, Esq., a Royal Academician, show the work of the Machine Gunners in France.

Before proceeding up the staircase to the Gallery of the Sir Arthur Currie Hall, glance for a moment at Van der Weyden's two drawings of Lens hanging near the staircase. These drawings were prepared as sketches for 40 feet long wall paintings which it is hoped sooner or later to be carried out in the War Memorial Museum at Regina. The artist was responsible for most of the colour in the camouflage material for the Canadian Corps used during the last year of the war. These paintings can be purchased for \$250. each and are at present merely loaned to the College.

At the approach to the Gallery will be seen oil painting of Colonel de Salaberry, the gallant French Canadian victor at the Battle of Chateauguay and General Brock, the hero of Queenston Heights. It will be remembered that at the surrender of Detroit, the conduct of the Indians under Tecumseh had been marked with great skill and courage and that in

recognition of the work of the Indian Chief, Brock handed him his own silver-mounted pistols, and taking off his sash, tied it round the body of the chief. Proudly inclining his head, Tecumseh took the crimson band, and then, unwinding his own partiecoloured closely woven Red River belt, he handed it to Brock.

It would seem that General Brock must have made a practice of wearing the Indian's belt after it was presented to him, for it appears rather more than a co-incidence that in the painting now before us he is wearing, not the crimson girdle of a General Officer but an Indian belt.

There is a sequel to the story related above which may be interesting. The following day, when he bade General Brock farewell, Tecumseh wore no sash. "Roundhead" he explained, "was an older, an abler warrior than himself, and while he was present, he could not think of wearing such a badge of distinction." He had given the sash to the Wyandotte chieftain. Thus Tecumseh proved himself a great diplomat.

On entering the Hall, the visitor will notice on the right wall of the gallery, an oil painting of Major-General G.B. Hughes, CB.CMG.DSO, a Graduate of the R.M.C. and Commander of the 5th Division. On the left will be seen the painting of another Graduate, Brig-General C.J. Armstrong, CB.CMG, who distinguished himself in the Engineers in the late war and is now G.O.C., Military District No.4. These two paintings have also been loaned through the kindness of Sir Edmund Walker and the Directors of the National Art Gallery.

Attention is finally invited to the brass plates on the gallery, bearing the following inscriptions:

The badges on the panels of this Gallery are the work of Major D. Stuart Forbes, M.C., R.C.M.G.B., His free will gift to the Royal Military College of Canada. 1922
--

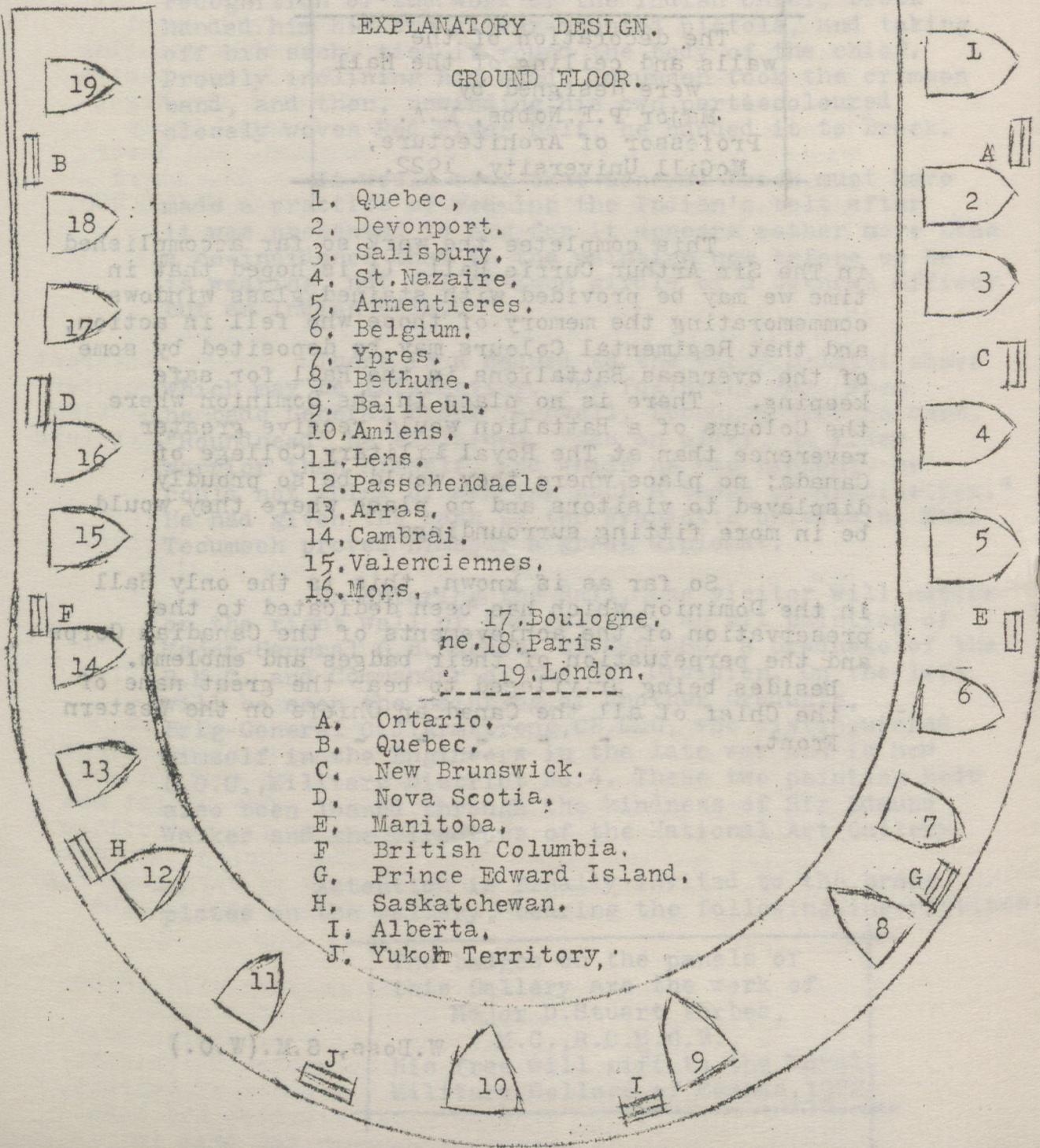
The decoration of the walls and ceiling of the Hall were designed by Major P.E. Nobbs, M.A. Professor of Architecture, McGill University, 1922.

This completes the work so far accomplished in The Sir Arthur Currie Hall. It is hoped that in time we may be provided with stained glass windows commemorating the memory of those who fell in action, and that Regimental Colours may be deposited by some of the overseas Battalions in the Hall for safe keeping. There is no place in the Dominion where the Colours of a Battalion would receive greater reverence than at The Royal Military College of Canada; no place where they would be so proudly displayed to visitors and no place where they would be in more fitting surroundings.

So far as is known, this is the only Hall in the Dominion which has been dedicated to the preservation of the achievements of the Canadian Corps and the perpetuation of their badges and emblems. Besides being privileged to bear the great name of the Chief of all the Canadian Chiefs on the Western Front.

EXPLANATORY DESIGN.

GROUND FLOOR.



1. Quebec,
2. Devonport.
3. Salisbury.
4. St. Nazaire.
5. Armentieres.
6. Belgium.
7. Ypres.
8. Bethune.
9. Bailleul.
10. Amiens.
11. Lens.
12. Passchendaele.
13. Arras.
14. Cambrai.
15. Valenciennes.
16. Mons.
17. Boulogne.
18. Paris.
19. London.

- A. Ontario.
- B. Quebec.
- C. New Brunswick.
- D. Nova Scotia.
- E. Manitoba.
- F. British Columbia.
- G. Prince Edward Island.
- H. Saskatchewan.
- I. Alberta.
- J. Yukon Territory.

EXPLANATORY DESIGN. MONOGRAMS.

GRI		MR		
1		2		
EAHA	B	AC	M	JB
3	4	5	6	7
RET		M		
8		9		
W		PL		
10		11		
M		LJL		
12		13		

1. George Rex. Imperator. His Majesty the King.
2. Mary Regina. Her Majesty the Queen.
3. Lt-Gen. Sir E.A.H. Alderson, KCB. 1st Commander of the Canadians.
4. Lt-Gen. Sir H.E. Burstall, KCB. KCMG. ADC, GOC 2nd Canadian Division.
5. General Sir Arthur Currie, GCMG. KCB, GOC Canadian Corps.
6. Maj-Gen. Sir A.C. Macdonell, KCB. CMG. DSO, GOC, 1st Canadian Division.
7. General the Rt. Hon. Lord Byng, GCMG. KCB, 2nd Cmr of the Cdn Corps.
8. Lt-Gen. Sir R.E.W. Turner, VC. KCB. KCMG. DSO., GOC Cdn troops in England.
9. Major-Gen. Mercer, GOC, 3rd Cdn Divn (Killed in action.)
10. Major-Gen. Sir D. Watson, KCB. CMG, GOC 4th Canadian Division.
11. Major-Gen. Sir F.O.W. Loomis, KCB. CMG. DSO, GOC 3rd Canadian Division.
12. Major-Gen. Sir E.W.B. Morrison, KCMG. CB. DSO, Commanded Canadian Corps Artillery
13. Major-Gen. L.J. Lipsett, CB. CMG. DSO, GOC 3rd Canadian Division. (Killed in action. 1918)

EXPLANATORY DESPATCH
THE SIR ARTHUR CURRIE HALL.

" Although a civilian myself, with no military training - except in my office now - I have always been highly in favour of the value of this institution and its wonderful traditions during the past years. The training obtained here, both mentally and physically is splendid and perhaps accounts for the fact that over 99% of the graduates of this College have made good, no matter in what walk of life they have chosen.

" The gallantry of the ex-adets who served in the Great war is unquestioned. Their work, coupled with the bravery and determination of the other officers and men of the Canadian Corps is one of the brightest pages in our history. As graduates of the Royal Military College, these young officers took their place in the nation's army, being fit in a moment for service to their country. And many citizens of this land, who perhaps before the war were not over enthusiastic concerning the Royal Military College are now not only anxious for its continuation, but deeply thankful that it has existed."

(The Honourable GP. Graham. Minister of Militia).

" This hall is to commemorate the deeds of our fellow comrades whom it was my great honour and privilege to command during the latter years of the war. It is a pleasure to look around and see the crests and battle colours of every unit which fought in France, and they remind me of the supreme effort of Canada and tell something of how Canada responded to the call to arms.

" But unless we show in our lives here at home, further determination to complete the fight for that which is right and just, we will be setting to naught the good work of our Canadian boys in France. There will come a time of real peace, when swords will be turned into ploughshares for good and all, but until that time comes, we Canadians must not forget the fidelity, fortitude and achievements of our soldiers. We must not fall back altogether into the slothfulness of peace."

(General Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., KCB)

May 15th, 1922.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac.:-

I have your letters of recent date regarding my visit to Kingston and I am very glad to know that on Wednesday the Memorial Hall will be opened by the Honourable Minister of Defence.

I intend to leave here on the eleven o'clock train (Daylight saving time) and I think that train gets into Kingston about four hours later. I am very sorry that it will not be possible to stay the night with you, as owing to an important Finance Meeting here the next day at noon and the wedding of one of my staff, which I would like to attend, I must return to Montreal on the night train. I know this is a terribly inconvenient hour, but I cannot see how it can be helped.

Will you please say to Lady Macdonell that I am most grateful for the invitation to spend the night with you. I am not quite certain but it is possible that Lady Currie will go up with me to see the Hall opened.

Looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

May 22nd, 1922.

Major-General Sir Archibald Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac.:-

Thank you very much indeed for your Memo re Adjutants. It certainly does cover the bill. I do not believe it would be possible to outline the duties and necessary qualifications of that very important regimental officer more fully or more succinctly.

I am sorry I did not see more of you after the dinner the other night, but I am looking forward to the end of next week.

Please remember me kindly to Lady Macdonell and your daughter and with all good wishes, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,



Kingston, Ont.

19th May, 1922.

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

My dear General,

I am enclosing herewith the notes
you asked me for regarding "Adjutants".

I hope that they will prove to be
what you wanted. I have consulted several authorities
here and they seem to think that the notes cover the
ground and fill the bill.

With kindest regards,

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Macdonell

*I thought your speech
simply magnificent &
have heard much
praiseworthy comment.
I am so pleased you
were at the opening
of the Hall & were pleased
with it.*

A. C. M.

August
Fifteenth
1922.

Major-General Sir A.C.Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac.:-

Let me acknowledge with many thanks
the receipt of the photograph of the Board of
Visitors and Staff of the Royal Military College.

This forms a most delightful
souvenir of a very interesting and pleasant few
days.

With all good wishes to the
Macdonell family and for the continued success
of the College, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

R.M.C. 6-7-1
August 8th 1922.

General Sir A.W. Currie, GCMG, KCB, etc.,
McGill University,
Montreal.

My Dear General,

I am forwarding today, under separate cover, a photograph of the Board of Visitors and Staff of The College taken on the occasion of the meeting of the Board last June, which I trust will reach you safely.

Please accept this souvenir of your visit with the Compliments of myself, the Staff and Gentlemen Cadets.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Macdonell

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE
KINGSTON.

14th November, 1922.

My dear General,

I am writing to bring to your notice the case of our old friend Dyer, who seems to be in bad shape and, as intimated in the attached letters, was haled out, losing all crops this year.

I have written to MacBrien with a view to getting him some sort of a job with the D.S.C.R. as an Inspector under the Soldier Land Settlement Board. This might enable him to live on his farm, and even if he received but a small salary for his duties, it would enable him to carry on until his recovers from the setback.

I wonder if you can help him in any way. I know that he can rely on any kindly influence which you can bring to bear on the matter, and I would be glad of anything you can do to help in landing him a suitable appointment.

The Mr. Mitchell in question is the father of Captain Jack Mitchell, ^{10th Bn} who was killed at Hayencourt. *as Co Commander*

The enclosed description of the work which has so far been accomplished in The Sir Arthur Currie Hall may possibly interest you.

With kindest regards,

I am, Sir,

Very sincerely yours,

A. C. Macdonell

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

LETTERS FROM MR. H.B.MITCHELL.

Manitoba Club, Winnipeg,
4th Nov. 1922.

Dear Macdonell,

I hinted to you that I feared that Hugh Dyer was very hard up. He and his two sons got completely hauled out - and he has no insurance. Yesterday I spent the evening with him to talk things over.

Things are as bad as I feared. I discussed the matter fully with Harrison, his lawyer and one of his officers - you may know him -.

We decided that it would be well if Dyer could get something that would not force him to leave home altogether - something in the line of the Soldiers' Settlement inspections - giving him say \$1200 a year. This, with his farm would satisfy him and not tie him down to office work. He would feel, too, that he was doing something for the men.

If anything can be done, it must be by his friends, and in a friendly spirit. The Department may well "be anxious to obtain General Dyer's co-operation" as to pitch him an ungracious bone as a job seeker.

I don't fancy that Dyer would consider anything under Ketchen - to be given orders by Ketchen's batman.

I have talked the thing over with Harold Aikens, who dimly appreciates Dyer, without understanding that a really good man may go through life without caring to make money.

Dyer and I have been intimate friends for 35 years - so perhaps I can influence the dear old chap for his own good - as you can too. Try.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) H.B.MITCHELL.

702 Dorchester Avenue,
Winnipeg. 6th Nov. 1922.

Dear Macdonell,

I am afraid my letter re. Dyer was very indefinite and unsatisfactory - asking everything and suggesting nothing. Harold Aikens is going to Ottawa in a couple of weeks. He will talk to the Soldier Settlement Heads. If the matter could be put before them in friendly confidence beforehand, they would be in a position perhaps to give Aikens a more sympathetic hearing.

How would it do to get someone - say Sir Arthur Currie - to write Dyer a friendly letter and casually express the regret that Dyer's service should be lost to the military forces.

This may sound very roundabout to you - but our friend can only be helped in spite of himself.

Yours sincerely,

(SGD) H.B.MITCHELL.

November
Fifteenth
1922.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell, K.C.B., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

I have your letter of yesterday with reference to our old friend Hugh.

When West in September with the Montreal Board of Trade I saw him in Winnipeg where he, with his usual fidelity to old friendship, came to see me. He told me then about the severe loss he had sustained by reason of the hail, but I had no idea it was as serious as your letter indicates. I thought he was not looking at all well. He appeared thinner and older and certainly much less buoyant. I remarked that to Harold Aikins and while Harold agreed he said nothing about any serious financial position. I hope Mr. Mitchell exaggerates the case, but I do not think he would.

I shall write to Dyer, as suggested by Mr. Mitchell, and I will think very hard about what I can do to induce the present Dominion Government to offer him some position. If I know Dyer well enough, I know that he would refuse to take a position which indicated on its face that it was something created solely to help him out. Nevertheless we will see what can be done. Do you know whether Dyer's land is heavily mortgaged or not? I think I shall write to Harold Aikins about it.

Thank you very much for the notes re the Sir Arthur Currie Hall. I do not know whether this memorandum is going to be permanent or not. If it is I suggest that it be carefully edited. For

Sir A.C. Macdonell - 2 -

instance, after General Mercer's name the letters C.B. have been left out. Secondly, I fully agree with all you say about the old Red Patch, as you know, but I would not dismiss the other divisions quite so summarily.

By the way I am going down to Kansas City on November 28th to speak to the Scotsmen of Missouri. Can you send me any good Scotch stories before I leave?

Please remember me kindly to Lady Macdonell and to your daughter.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours ever,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

18th November, 1922.

My dear General,

Many thanks for your letter of the 15th instant regarding Hugh Dyer. I was sure that you would do what you could. I hear from MacBrien that you will be in Ottawa today and he tells me that he will take up the case with you.

The notes regarding the Hall are merely tentative, and are even now much amended. A short article regarding the Hall appears in this issue of the Review and even there, proper recognition is given to all Divisions. We do hope in due course to publish a booklet regarding the Hall, but before definitely handing it to the printer I propose to ask you to edit it, for it is your Hall and it is your right that it should be properly described.

I enclose a few stories regarding Scottish traits (which are so often amusingly false, but over which the Highlander always laughs good humouredly). I will try and think of a few more during the week-end.

With kindest regards, and many thanks
for your letter,

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

General Sir Arthur W. Currie,
GCMG. KCB.

Militia Headquarters,
Ottawa, Ontario.

When the cadets went to Alexandria, all possible expenditures were arranged for but the Highland Committee suddenly discovered they had missed the last meal on the train. Remember they had filled the bargain but they handed me a cheque signed by Blank & said give them a fine meal, our guests General & fill in the cheque up to \$150.00. They are to have as good a meal as possible that's the real Highlander.

A. C. Macdonnell

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

29th January, 1923.

My dear General,

Do you remember Lt-Colonel F.P.Day, D.S.O.,
O.C. of the 25th Battalion?

I met him in Pittsburgh last Monday. He is very highly spoken of by the authorities of the Carnegie Technical Institute, an Engineering College which has about 3400 students. I did not know him at the front, but he impressed me as a first-rate man.

In the course of conversation he told me that he was determined to get back to Canada. He told me that he wanted his son, now 5 years old, to grow up a Canadian. I asked him where he expected to go and he said he was not sure but intended asking Sir Robert Falconer, who he said knew him before the war, for a job. I thought I would mention his name to you, Sir, in case he might fit into something at McGill and possibly be the man you would want.

The real purport of this letter is as follows. We have the honour to have a Hall named after you, but don't you think, Sir, we should have amongst our household goods things intimately connected with you, that, as time goes on will be more and more valued and treasured, e.g., your trench helmet, gas mask, a Corps, Division and Brigade brassard, a khaki jacket worn in some one or more of the battles you Commanded the Corps in; trench stick; maps used at the front; a copy of your immortal March Order of 1918 signed by yourself, etc. Other things may suggest themselves. On the 10th May, 1921, in response to a similar request, you stated that your possessions were still in Ottawa, but I am hoping that you by now have them in Montreal.

My idea is we will procure a suitable case to be either placed in the Hall under your portrait or in the large Square, that sort of Entre Sol, that we count part of it. Now is the time!!! Personally, I think to be complete, we should have something of yours as Colonel of Artillery, Colonel of 50th Gordon Highlanders; Brig-General, Major-General and Lieut-General. Please think it over and help us out!!!

I am trying very hard to complete things I

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE
KINGSTON.

.2.

have either inaugurated or become very deeply interested in, and this is very near to my heart and will more and more become a source of pride and an inspiration to future generations of Cadets to feel that not only does our Assembly Hall bear your name and contain your portrait, but also we have so many personal souvenirs bestowed upon us by yourself.

With kindest regards,

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Macdonell

*my respects & esteem
to Lady Currie &
your sister
A.C.M.*

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

January
Thirtieth
1923.

Major-General Sir Archibald Macdonell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear General:-

I have your letter of yesterday. I remember Colonel Day of the 25th Bn. very well and a very good officer he was too. I have had some correspondence with him re a position on our teaching staff, but at the present time there is no vacancy which he could fill. I always keep his name in mind when anything does come up.

With reference to the Hall, of course, I must dig out some things that might be interesting additions to your collection. I haven't very many things except the old clothes and probably by this time my wife has given the most of them away. I know that when I want to dress in Khaki at the present time it is difficult to find a respectable pair of trousers. I know I can manage the brassards and possibly the trench helmet, and a copy of the Order, while amongst my papers must be some documents of interest.

I hope you got along well in Pittsburg.

With kindest regards to Lady Macdonell and all good wishes to yourself, I am,

Yours faithfully,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,

KINGSTON.

Nov 17 ¹⁸

My dear General

Just a line to say that I
have returned from the general
hospital here, where I was called
to see Scroggie, there is really
no hope, blood poisoning from
an ulcerated tooth, such a
splendid fellow, patient & brave
He has got very near to me in his
4 years here, I thought I had
better let you know at once,

My respects & esteem to Lady
Burrle

I am Sir
yours sincerely
A. C. Macdonell

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

KINGSTON. 27th March, 1924.

My dear General:

Many thanks for your good letter of yesterday.

I shall look forward with great pleasure to meeting you on the 2nd of April and to having you with us.

With reference to Miss Warren's Pictures; unfortunately I have already written her explaining that owing to lack of accommodation it would be impossible to accept them. I will, however, write her again and say that the matter has been reconsidered, with the result that by a re-arrangement of the hanging of the numerous pictures already in our possession, we have been able to make room for those which she is so anxious should find a home in the R.M.C. I will, you may be sure, take your advice and be careful not to give Miss Warren any hope that the R.M.C. will become their permanent home.

Poor Scroggie's funeral takes place tomorrow. Brave and gallant to the last, he put up a wonderful fight for life.

With kindest regards,

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Macdonell

Genl. Sir A. W. Currie, KCMG., KCB.
Principal and Vice Chancellor,
McGill University,
Montreal, P. Q.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

April 10th
1924

My dear General

"The ring dinner" was
another most enjoyable
& magnificent success,
your unavoidable & ever
to be regretted absence
the only drop in the cup.

I read your wire &
his let spoke in the
most feeling manner
about you saying "there
could be no real ring
dinner without you"
thus voicing our thoughts
& feelings, under the
circumstances it
became

my honour & privilege to
propose His Ex's health,
I don't mean to hint or
imply I filled your shoes,
The Canadian does not
live who can come anywhere
near doing that, The
truth being they are too
d - r big!!!

But I did propose
the toast & the enthusiasm
with which it was
received was wonderful
& magnificent, His Ex,
whilst he must have felt
proud indeed, was notably
affected, & if only you could
have been with us,

am in great hurry
forgive haste I am Sir
with all good wishes to you
& Madam
Yours as ever
A. C. Macdonell

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE
KINGSTON.

April 15th
1924

my dear General

Just a line to say how much
I appreciate your finding time
to write such a splendid letter to me,
we all i.e. my wife, Alison & myself
think it a beautiful letter,

I have always understood that
your mother was the wonderful
mother of a wonderful man,

I thank God she lived to see you
not only Corps Bdr but principal
of McGill also,

with all good wishes
from us all

I am Sir

yours as ever

A-C Macdonell

June 23rd, 1923.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

I am in receipt of your letter of the 12th re the qualifications of Dr. J.L. McKee.

I am afraid that I must have left unintentionally a wrong impression in the minds of those at Kingston regarding my opinion of Dr. McKee. I have not "a pick" on him. I was only speaking in the most general terms on that fact that a man who was willing to work for \$2,400 a year could scarcely be considered to be in the same class as a man for whom you had to pay \$5,500. or \$6,000. His academic record, his experience, the reputation he holds amongs you all leads me to conclude that the R.M.C. is very fortunate in obtaining the services of such a man for so little money.

I would most cordially support your recommendation that he be graded a little higher by the Civil Service. Dawson told me that McKee was willing to devote his life to teaching, that he was happy at Kingston and that if he got a little more money he would remain. I think an effort should be made to keep him because I do not believe we could get so good a man at as low a salary should he decide to go.

I note what you say re Hill and I agree with you that he should be given his chance.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

EDUCATIONAL AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE OF
Dr. J. L. McKee.

Delicate in early life, Dr. McKee went from Ireland to Australia when, his health restored, he returned to Ireland and entered the University of Ireland in 1901. The following is his record since that date.

QUALIFICATIONS.

- 1905 - B.A. First of First Class Honours in Experimental Science, The Royal Univeristy of Ireland.
- 1905 - Andrew's Studentship, Queens College, Belfast.
- 1906 - 1851 Exhibition Research Scholarship.
- 1909 - Ph.D. Honours in Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics, The Univeristy of Frieburg, Germany.
- 1914 - M.Sc. First Class Honours, The National University of Ireland.
- 1914 - Fellow of the Chemical Society of London.
- 1920 - Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Chemistry.

EXPERIENCE.

- 1904 - 1906 - Honourary Demonstrator of Chemistry, Queens College, Belfast.
- 1909-1910 - Science Master, Market Bosworth School, England.
- 1910-1914 - Demonstrator of Chemistry, National Univeristy of Ireland.
- 1914-1915 - Professor of Chemistry, Mount Allison Univeristy, N.B.
- 1915-1917 - Lieutenant, on Service at the Internment Camp, Amherst, N.S.
- 1917-1918 - In charge of research department and Assistant Chief Chemist, Imperial Munitions Board Plant, Trenton, Ont.
- 1918-1921 - Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.
- 1921-1923 - Instructor of Chemistry, Royal Military College.

RESEARCH.

- 1907 - The Effect of Radium on the Strength of Threads, with Prof. W.B. Norton, Nature, 1940, Vol. 75, p. 224.
- The Properties of Foul Muds deposited in Polluted Tidal Waters, with Prof. E.A. Letts. Fifth Report of the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal, 1907.
- Thioderivate der Ketone. Ph.D. Thesis of Frieburg University.
- Acetyl Derivatives of the Diphenylthiosemicarbazides, J.C.S. Vol. 107, p. 1133.
- Mercury Cleansing Apparatus, with Prof A.E. Dixon, in 1923, J.C.S. 1923, Vo. 123, p. 895.

To the Commandant,
Royal Military College.

June 12th, 1923.

Sir:-

In accordance with your request, I have the honour to enclose a brief memo covering the qualifications and experience of Dr. J. L. McKee, Instructor in Chemistry at the Royal Military College.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant

Frank H. Day

*Please forgive
this scribble*

Personal June 12th Professor of Physics and Chemistry.

*my dear General
I thought perhaps you might
find time to glance thro - this as it
shows McKee is far from a "lemon",
I believe we are going to lose him,
as I understand he has another good
offer. He is a most devoted son & his
mother is said to like Kingston this
may save the situation for us,*

*Re Hill I heard today there was
a good chance of his being again
passed over, honestly I don't think
this is coming to him, He has done well
& learnt his lesson in every way, He was
a thoroughly sound fighter overseas, could you
put in a kindly word for him? I am
Just leaving for Ottawa myself. I am Sir A.C. Macdonell*

June 24th, 1924.

Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonnell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

Thanks very much for your letter of the 18th. I would have acknowledged it sooner but I have been away for the last three or four days. On Friday I went up to Ridley College to present the prizes and speak to the boys, while yesterday I was at the University of Vermont, Burlington.

Marjorie told me that she saw you but did not think you recognized her as she greeted you and Lady Macdonell when you were receiving. I know how difficult it is to recognize everyone in a crowd. While she was sorry she did not have a word with you she felt diffident about going up to where you were sitting during most of the evening.

I had intended to write you to-day to ask you how it came about that the ranks were restored to the cadets. I had concluded that pressure had been brought to bear upon you to take that action. I wondered whether the Board had recommended it or not. Personally I think it was a very wrong thing to do and that no good whatever will come of it, but rather the reverse. Since it occurred I have spoken to cadets now in attendance at the College and to ex-cadets. The former have told me that, of course, the whole thing last spring was a "tempest in a teapot", that the College authorities got unduly excited and acted hurriedly in reducing the N.C.Os., that you had seen your mistake and while you could not apologize for

Major-Gen. Sir A.C. Macdonell - 2 -

what you had done you tried to make things right by restoring the ranks. From the cadets with whom I talked I gather that they think the whole process is the College's way of admitting that they have made a mistake and they have done their best to make it up to those punished.. I think you will find that the general public who takes any interest in the matter will look upon it in the same way. Some ex-cadets do, while others believe that the ranks were restored after political pressure had been brought upon you. Personally, I was very disappointed when Marjorie told me about it and I do not agree at all with the Minister or MacBrien.

You may think that I am too hard. Maybe I am, but I do not think so. I think some of the young men were very fortunate in being allowed to remain at the College and the least they could do for that privilege was to work hard and do their best to show that they had learned their lesson. Restoring them to their former rank leaves a wrong impression in the minds of the public and the cadets themselves. The Minister doesn't know much about running a Military institution and he was looking only at the political aspect of the situation and you and I both know that politics won't mix. Guthrie and his crowd will think that they forced you into it and if politics are going to get into the R.M.C. or affect its discipline in any way the sooner the College is closed up the better.

You will think that I am very cross and old man, as I am about this.

Please remember me most kindly to Lady Macdonell and to Miss Alison, and with very best wishes to yourself, I am,

Yours faithfully,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

18th June 1924.

My dear General,

Mea Culpa, Mea Maximus Culpa, my Chief's daughter has been here and gone and I never saw the lady or did a d----d thing. I did not see her anywhere at the Memorial Arch Service or Closing Exercises (all of which went off well with plenty of pep, and at the same time dignity).

On the night of the Ball I made sure I would be able to intercept her as she passed Lady Macdonell and myself en route to the Ball room.

The receiving tent was some distance away, and I now learn that a lot of people went to a photo that was being taken and did the natural thing and walked straight into the Ball room without seeing us. As she was there, I fancy she did that too; I am sorry.

I am sending you a paper of the Unveiling which may interest you. Whoever wrote the item about me angelized me out of all recognition by my friends, didn't he?

The Minister was tremendously pleased with the Arch Ceremonies and got MacBrien and they two agreed that after all the prizes were given out, it would be a fine thing to re-promote the First Class to their former ranks. In this I concurred, so at ~~one~~ o'clock on the day of the June Ball they got their ranks back, and Under Officers Sashes appeared like magic. They certainly had worked hard to redeem themselves and promoting all was different to G's idea of re-instating Crowe before the end. Sergt. Hamilton won the Sword of Honour and deserved it.

I am Sir, with kindest regards to yourself and Lady Currie - tell the daughter I refrain from stating she is pretty foxey to take good care she was not worried by an antiquarian like myself, but the facts speak for themselves!!!

Yours as ever,

a. c. macdonell

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

July 7th, 1924.

Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonnell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

In my last letter to you I probably gave evidence of being a little cross. I was, but I want you to know that I was not cross with you. I know that you would never suggest the re-establishment of those found guilty. It may have been regarded in the College as re-promotion, but, of course, everyone outside would regard it as re-establishment.

I can imagine the embarrassing position in which you were placed. The Minister recommended the re-instatement, MacBrien coincided and you, probably, could not very well refuse.

I have no doubt about you receiving an extension of a year. I should accept it, and I do not think, if I were you, I would ^{not} worry about the future. You will be better off away from the College as far as financial obligations are concerned and if ever a man has deserved a long rest you have. You never spared yourself during the war and since then your work at the Royal Military College has shewed that you never spared yourself there. You have been a most successful Commandant and you can leave with the solid satisfaction of having done a very great and good service.

Major-General Macdonnell - 2 -

I hope it won't be long before
I see you again.

With kindest wishes to Lady
Macdonnell, Miss Alison and yourself, I am,

Yours faithfully,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,

KINGSTON. June 25th
1924

My dear General

Your deduction is doubtless right & never found you wrong yet, but no hint or breath of what you say reached me before your letter, and there was nothing in the language or demeanour of the 1st class or other cadets ("many of them with white men") that led me to think otherwise than that they looked upon the Minister's order as a magnanimous act prompted by their good work,

The whole thing was done on the spur of the moment, there was no political influence that I know of behind it. The Minister stated that to me positively, "MacBrien recommended it. I told him MacB - that I would not recommend it, but would concur in their being re-promoted, not re-instated, at the close of the ceremonies,

I am upset over the interpretation put on it. It was not my pigeon, but I clearly see from your letter that R.M.C. & myself will be branded with it.

if I receive an extension of 1 year, I will take it, It will soon pass & I will throw myself into it with all the energy of a

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,

KINGSTON,

"best round & a wind up."

In either case I will soon pass into the discard & limbo of forgotten things,

I have had a good innings, more chances & luck than I ever deserved,

If only I had some objective after leaving R.M.C. (if I were not so infernally hard up I could perhaps be of service to some of the Regts I saw Hon Ibol of but that is out of the question,) I would welcome retirement,

I took the R.M.C. to be of some use to Canada at least my chief's name is perpetuated & the old corps has a home, they can't take that away from this old soldier,

we are so sorry we did not recognize the daughter, I can't understand how I missed the name, it should have caught my ear at once,

I am Sir

with kindest regards to you
all yours sincerely

Archiebald Cameron Macdonell

December 15th, 1924.

Major-General Sir Archibald Macdonell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac.:-

Just a short note to acknowledge
your letter of the 13th and to say that I shall be
very glad to see you any time in January, except that
I am going to New York about the 15th for a few days.

Most cordially reciprocating your
good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

KINGSTON. 13th December 1924.

My dear General,

I was very pleased indeed to receive your letter of 9th instant, and to know that you will recommend me for the Presidency of the Western University at London.

I can assure you, Sir, that I am indeed very grateful, and words fail me to express fully my appreciation of your kind offices. I can only repeat I will not spare myself in the effort to do what may be required of me, should I be successful in obtaining the appointment.

With reference to the Review of the work at R.M.C., I have not issued any copies, but it was my intention to distribute copies to members of my Staff in April next probably at the Easter recess.

However, you know, Sir, I should welcome any suggestions or criticism you may be prepared to offer, both in this and other matters.

In accordance with the kind suggestions contained in your letter of 12th instant, I should like very much to be able to see you, some time after the New Year, and would be glad if you could suggest a date that would be suitable to you.

It will be impossible for me to leave until after the new year. With kindest regards to Lady Currie and yourself, in which I am joined by Lady Macdonell, and Alison, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

A. C. Macdonell

General Sir, Arthur W. Currie,
G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal & Vice Chancellor,
McGill University,
MONTREAL, P.Q.

*Not a syllable will be issued
that you don't approve of. If
you consider it best I will
destroy the review. A.C.M.*

December 9th, 1924.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

Replying to your letter of December 5th let me assure you that I shall do my best to secure for you the Presidency of Western University at London. I do not know whether I can or not, as the matter is not mine to decide, but I can do what I have already done and that is, to recommend you as kindly as possible.

You will remember when you spoke to me last Spring about your name being suggested for the post I was not particularly enthusiastic. What was in my mind then was that, as you had so thoroughly earned a rest and as the building up and successful administration of a university is no light task, I thought for your own sake it would be best for you not to take on the additional work. Evidently you have thought the matter over and are willing to continue in harness. I am again writing to Mr. Little, the President of the Board.

Thanks very much for the Review of the work of the R.M.C. from 1919 to 1924. I have taken it home to read carefully and critically. If I have any suggestions to make I hope you will not mind my writing to you about them.

With kindest wishes to Lady Macdonell, Miss Alison and yourself, I am,

Ever yours faithfully,

December 9th, 1924.

Arthur Little, Esq.,
President, Board of Governors,
Western University,
London, Ont.

Dear Mr. Little:-

Since our conversation in London last October you probably have been expecting to hear from me.

I have again thought long and carefully about the fitness of Major-General Macdonell for the position of President of Western University. There is no doubt about Macdonell's loyalty to the institution he serves, his enthusiasm for any work he undertakes and his powers of successful administration. His personal example is a good one to set before the students. He is a fine type of Canadian, patriotic, self-sacrificing, clean-minded, willing to work hard, and is actuated by none but the highest ideals. I am sure he would relieve the Board of Governors of many of their worries they now have because there is no one to co-ordinate the administrative and the academic services. I believe he would be popular with staff and students and an acceptable representative of the University before the public.

There is, of course, one thing which you must carefully consider, and that is his age. I do not know exactly what it is, but he has lived a very strenuous life in as much as he has never spared himself. What that life has been you know as well as I do. In view of his age I would think it would be necessary in a few years that you look about for another President. I

Arthur Little, Esq., - 2 -

know it is not always easy to find a suitable man and perhaps Macdonell would fill in nicely until you get a man suitable in all respects and whose probable tenure of office would be long enough for him not only to institute new policies but to see them firmly established.

I intend going home for the week between Christmas and New Year's, though it is possible I shall not be in London.

With all kind wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

*Personal
+
Confidential*

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,

KINGSTON

5th December 1924.

Re.position as President,
Western University,
London, Ont.

My dear General,

Can you and will you secure for me
the offer of the Presidency or Head of the Western
University, London, Ont.?

Lady Macdonell and I have talked
over things, apart from the fact that R.M.C. has
crippled me badly financially- (tho' the honour
of being Commandant of the College is worth every
penny and more)- an idle life is not for me.

Assuming that the pay & allowances
are what I think they are, I will accept and be
ready to take over in the Summer of 1925.
You know, Sir, I will be grateful and will show it
by not sparing myself.

I am, Sir, with all good wishes to
you and Lady Currie,

Yours sincerely,

Arthur A. Cameron Macdonell

General Sir, A.W. Currie,
G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Principal & Vice Chancellor,
McGill University,
MONTREAL, P.Q.

Exclusive Connection

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Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
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ORIGINAL OF MESSAGE

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GEN SIR ARTHUR CURRIE

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241 DRUMMOND ST MONTREAL QUE

RE ALBERTA PLEASE DELAY WRITING OTTAWA LETTER FOLLOWS

MACDONELL.

COMMANDANT'S HOUSE,
ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,

KINGSTON. Feb 1st
1925

My dear General

Lady Macdonell has come to the decision that it will be quite impossible for her to face the responsibilities of a Government House, In a conversation at Fort Du'Appelle I fully understood that she was content to undertake ^{(but no other place),} Redoubton, if such a thing came about, I don't feel that it would be either kind or wise to try & obtain any position that entails large responsibilities in the way

of entertaining ^{hours} I therefore write
you, as I felt I must head
off the letter, you were kind
enough to say, you would write
to Lord Byron,

It is a disappointment,
but I don't fancy I could
have had much chance
of being selected with
politicians in the field,

I am so sorry to have worried
you Sir, but it was wonderful
to be received in the same
kindly sympathetic way
in wh you have always
received this useless old
crow bait, I wish something
would turn up that I could do,
but if it doesn't I have had

COMMANDANT'S HOUSE
ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE
KINGSTON

a fine innings & must
just face the music as
best I can, I owe everything
I am to the singular grace &
beauty of my wife's character,
that brave little Campbell
woman who has sent me
away so often to danger
with a laugh in her teeth,
Tho well I knew the
job in her heart, so in our
old age I must keep clear
of what worries her,

I am sir with
apologies gratefully yours
A-C-Macdonell

April 8th, 1925.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

If it finally settled to hold a meeting of the Board of Visitors in May I shall be very glad to stay with you at the Commandant's House.

While it is a little early to state just yet what Lady Currie will do I know she always looks forward to those visits to Kingston and as I know also that she is very fond of Lady Macdonell and Miss Alison, I believe she will try to go. It may be that owing to her leaving for England early in June she may think she has too much to do. However, I shall let you know in plenty of time.

Yours faithfully,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

KINGSTON.

April 10th
1925

My dear General

many thanks for yours
of Mar 30th ult.

I suppose they will eventually
tell me who my successor is to
be, what you say is correct the
College is the thing, nothing
else matters, "who can stop
old R.M.C."

This is just to let you know
how glad I am you are coming
up on the advisory Board as
Chairman & to enquire your
staying with us, Miss Lady
Bernie with you too of course,
you know where a Highland
welcome awaits you

I am being sent to Boston to
participate in the 150th anniversary of
the battle of Lexington!! a fine
job for the descendant of
W. Se. loyalists!! My father's father
& mother were both W. & S.

My mother however was a
Bostonian & her people were
bitter continentalists, I was
not up with the highland end
of it & by habit & inclination
always sided with the W. & S.

However I dare say it will
be amusing, The S - d old
American Eagle will certainly
scream to beat the band,

"America won that war & every other
war, including the Great War," if
you believe them, but no sane man
does.

I am Sir with all
good wishes
yours sincerely

A. C. Macdonell

DOCKET STARTS:

3 MARCH 1925 to
30 MARCH 1925 -

March 30th, 1925.

Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac.:-

I do not believe that I ever commented on the last memorandum you sent me dealing with your work at the College. I quite approve of it and consider it much superior in every way to the one sent before. In fact you have erred this time, if at all, on the side of modesty.

As I intimated in a letter last week I attended a meeting in Ottawa on Friday afternoon and will allow you to hear through the official channels what the decision was. I can only say that I indicated that I would support loyally the recommendations of the Advisory Board, even though they did not agree with my own personal views. I found myself in a very embarrassing position, but I was only one and I think the whole matter was pretty well cut and dried. I expressed my opinion fully and frankly, but apparently the Militia Council, the old cadets, the Permanent Force and the Minister did not share them. I shall give your successor as loyal support as I can because, after all, the College is the great thing.

Sir A.C.Macdonell

- 2 -

I must say again that I cannot tell you how sorry I am that it will be impossible for me to the present in Kingston. I do not know whether or not in my last letter I gave you a special reason why I had to get over early in June. Marjorie is to be presented at the last Court in June so it is necessary that we sail as early in June as possible. However, I am looking forward to seeing you in May.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

COMMANDANT'S HOUSE,
ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,

KINGSTON. Mar 3rd

1925

My dear General

many thanks re Scroggie I got
hold of millar & he says everything
is O.K re second wound,

Ross has written there is little or
no chance of a pension the
authorities deny any connection
between his wounds & subsequent
death, please forgive me for delay
in reply, we have been a sick
household first alison then
lady m - & now myself,

I am sending you Revised copy
of work done for your final
decision if you think it will
be better not to give it to the
staff I won't,

Myself seems like climbing a fairly steep hill, one tries & tries fails in one place tries another at last you are over the crest & think you are on the level but you haven't gone far before it's down hill once more,

However I really feel & know I have got on better than my talents deserved, so I have no kick coming, wrote to Mack B. re your providing at the closing day but so far no reply, he has changed very much, I feel I am in wrong but can't help myself, I intend to lay low & keep clear of all trouble, I want to leave in peace & harmony with all concerned, I can't picture myself "a brutal licentious soldier man," no longer a dodger, I would far rather

I find myself coming to the
conclusion that you are right,
you always are for that matter
General & that I need & had better
have a rest,

I got a message from a friend
in Letchbridge stating that he had
been asked by a number of the best people
to ask me if I would accept
a Stipendiary Magistracy there,
& it would have just suited, a
place I use to know well, not too
much work, but a job & a welcome
addition to one's pension & no
social obligations, as soon
top of his letter came a wire
"Regretted to inform me local
member had promised job & it
could not now be got for me,
Life is a queer thing, I often feel
the life of a mediocre man like

have hung to the end,
I'm a real old sodger
That's not what I am,
and I won't be reconstructed
& I don't care a d—n,
oh well it will be all the same
in a hundred years,
The chances are we will find
ourselves where most men go
I sincerely hope our lot will
be with the soldiers, God
bless'em,

I am ~~in~~ with all
good wishes.

yours sincerely

A. C. Macdonell

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA.

Review of what has been accomplished between the Autumn of 1919 and the Autumn of 1924.

SITUATION IN 1919.

The war had naturally upset and badly interfered with the curriculum. It was evident there was much to be done, and, thanks entirely to my loyal hard-working Staff, a great deal has been accomplished, viz:-

ADVISORY BOARD.

An Advisory Board of Visitors has been established and functions to the mutual advantage of the R.M.C. and the Department. An Academic Board composed of Heads of Departments, R.M.C. has been created that deals with all educational questions affecting Cadets in a sympathetic, firm manner.

CORRICULUM.

Military.

The curriculum has been placed upon a sound basis from a military point of view covering the Woolwich and Sandhurst courses with Military History and Imperial Geography added and the teaching of French much improved.

Civil.

From a civil point of view our course has been brought into line with the Great Universities, our entrance examination being Junior Matriculation to any Provincial University. With our increased facilities for teaching Physics and Chemistry and Engineering, and the fact that the Engineering Department has been placed under one head and our English course improved with Public Speaking taught, practiced and encouraged, our progress has been such as to win a recognition from the Universities of three years of a Science Course and other privileges.

In connection with the foregoing a great deal of help has been received from the Assistant Director of Training Operations, Canadian General Staff. Too much credit also cannot be given to the Director of Studies and his confreres for careful and untiring supervision, helpful, constructive criticism, coupled with united team play that eliminated overlapping and spells success.

The four years course was necessarily adopted to fill the requirements as above. Had three years only been continued, the Woolwich and Sandhurst courses could not have been covered if the Civil course continued as it was.

UNIFORM.

The Cadets have been clothed in the old traditional R.M.C. uniform, and our own Tailor Shop with a good Master Tailor and assistants has been established.

The servants also have been provided with the old traditional servants' uniform of the R.M.C.

ORGANIZATION. Under our late Professor of Tactics and his assistants a sound Battalion organization, similar in every respect to a Line Battalion, consisting at present of two Companies each of two Platoons, each platoon in permanent sections, has been introduced and is enforced. This entailed Under-Officers as at Sandhurst and Woolwich, thus allowing one Sergeant-Major and Quartermaster-Sergeant per Company, properly dressed, who function as such. The College Sergeant-Major acts as R.S.M. to the Gentlemen Cadets Battalion and a member of the Quartermaster's Staff as Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant. A sound system of Interior Economy has been introduced by Officers commanding Companies.

MUTUAL INSTRUCTION.

CAVALRY AND ARTILLERY TRAINING. Mutual Instruction is enforced from the 4th Class onwards. Cavalry Training has been introduced and the Cadet Squadron is efficient. The R.C.H.A. help us out with horses for this as well as in Artillery. Practice work, Trek etc. are not overlooked.

PHYSICAL TRAINING. The Physical Training of the Cadets is on a sounder basis than ever, under our present Physical Director.

RIDING. Thanks to the system introduced by the late Captain Bray and carried on by our present Riding Master, R.M.C. Riding Establishment is efficient and the training given, excellent.

COMMISSIONS. An antedate of one year's seniority for our Graduates taking commissions in the British Regular Army, has been obtained from the War Office.

R.M.C. REVIEW. A College Magazine has been established and a College Calendar containing the regulations has been published.

MILITIA. For the Militia R.M.C. has pulled its weight. Our General Staff Officer and his Assistants have prepared and sent to the various Districts lectures for the Militia Staff Course and at a later date set the examination papers which they have also corrected. The Staff College Course, Long Course, Brush up Course for promotion have been re-established. A Physical Training Course has been held for the Militia under our Physical Director.

MEMORIAL HALL. On the completion of the new Educational Building the Government permitted us to call the Assembly Hall after General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B. etc., and it has become a beautiful memorial to the Canadian Corps, thanks to Major Stuart Forbes, M.C., and Professors Nobbs and Traquair of McGill University and Mr. Adeney, Canadian traditions have been enforced: paintings of Wolfe, Montcalm, Brock de Salaberry and Canadian Generals in the Great War have been obtained, and no stone has been left unturned to produce a proud Canadian atmosphere.

The Halls outside the Currie Hall have been fitted out with trophies of the War and the Chase, and the Parks Commission of Canada has given us a number of interesting views of the different provinces.

MESSES. A comfortable Superior Staff Mess has been provided and the relations that exist between our military and civilian members, who now know each other well, are delightful.

The Subordinate Staff also have a mess which, while somewhat cramped, is much appreciated.

The servants have also been provided for and are loyal and contented.

GROUNDS.

(a) The grounds have been put in order including Fort Frederick, the Martello Tower of which has been renovated and lighted and a small museum started. The guns have been remounted, a fine flagstaff erected, water laid on, and it is now a show spot. The Flanking Lunette has also been renovated and lighted and contains a fine model of the Western trenches constructed during the war by Lieut. Adeney.

(b) A considerable addition to the grounds has been made by the taking over by the College from M.D.No.2 of a large portion of Barriefield Common (boundaries as outlined in H.C.74-11-22, dated 15-3-1921). This addition will allow for the extension and expansion of the College as the Institution grows.

ROADS. Many new roads have been constructed and all roads given suitable patriotic names.

FORT FREDERICK DORMITORY. Our persistent requests for a much needed new wing to Fort Frederick Dormitory have been acceded to and is now nearly completed.

GARDENS. Our gardens are now a pride to us, and a small hot house has been built. A beauty spot is being made just outside the inner enclosure wall near Fort Frederick.

TENNIS COURTS. The gulley near the Rink has been has been filled in and five earth tennis courts made, etc. etc.

THE PARADE GROUND. This has been doubled in size, a much needed improvement.

RINK. The Holt Rink, provided by the generosity of Sir Herbert Holt and Colonel Wanklyn, was taken over by the Government, completed, fitted up with water and lighted.

MEMORIAL ARCH. The work on the grounds preparing them for the Memorial Arch was also supervised by the indefatigable Works Officer whose work in connection with grounds and buildings has been beyond all praise.

POWER HOUSE.

The Power House has been electrified and a large yearly saving effected.

FINANCES.

Thanks to the careful supervision of Heads of Departments concerned, coupled with the efficiency of the Paymaster's and Quartermaster's Departments, R.M.C. finances are on a sound basis and have never during the period in question over-run the vote, on the contrary, savings have been effected.

SPORTS.

In Sports a system of platoon competitions ensures each Cadet taking part and being versed in various sports. Thanks to the energetic training and football knowledge of our late enthusiastic Staff Adjutant, we have twice won the Intercollegiate Intermediate Championship and once the Dominion.

LIAISON.

The relations between the citizens and R.M.C. can confidently be asserted to have never been better nor, indeed, so good. They are unreservedly proud of the College.

Our relations with Queen's University are also cordial in the extreme.

Liaison has been established between R.M.C. of Canada, the R.M.C. Sandhurst, the R.M. Academy, Woolwich, the R.M.C. of Australia and West Point U.S. Military Academy.

The College also owes a debt of gratitude to the Department of National Defence, Ottawa, the members of which, led by the Chief of Staff, are out to help the R.M.C. of Canada.

I would be ungrateful indeed not to mention the truly efficient help I have received from Sergeant-Major W. Boss (W.O.1), my late Confidential Clerk.

It only remains for me to express to the Staff (Superior and Subordinate) individually and collectively, from the Director of Studies downwards, my grateful appreciation of their good work and loyal hearty cooperation. It is an honour indeed to be at the head of such a Staff.

Major-General,
Commandant,
Royal Military College.

DOCKET ENDS:

3 MARCH 1925 to

30 MARCH 1925

April 6th, 1925.

Sergt.-Major W. Boss, W.O.,
Adjutant-General's Office,
Department of National Defence,
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Boss:-

I am sorry that I have not before this acknowledged your letter of March 27th, but when in Ottawa that day I happened to be wearing a coat I did not usually wear, with the result that the letter was forgotten until yesterday.

I wish to support most warmly the suggestion that an effort be made to make possible a scholarship at the R.H.C. in memory of General Macdonell's association with the College and with the Canadian Militia both in war and peace. I believe such an effort would meet with a ready response and I am sure would please the General mightily. If you go on with the effort I shall be very glad to subscribe something. I suggest that there is not much time to be lost and that a beginning should be made at once.

Yours faithfully,

Adjutant-General's Office,
National Defence Headquarters,
Ottawa.

27th March, 1925.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

Sir,

Will you permit me to solicit the favour of your frank opinion on the merits and successful prospects of an effort as set forth in the attached draft.

I thought that it would be particularly pleasing to my old Chief to feel that his name would continue to be connected at the R.M.C., and that because of the life and example he has led, there would in perpetuity be a Cadet at the College enjoying the benefits of a Scholarship under his name.

Then, Scholarships at the R.M.C. are, I venture to suggest, sadly needed, and would probably be welcomed by the Department.

It has occurred to me that many of the Graduates of the College; his old comrades in the R.N.W.M.P., Strathcona's Horse, the 7th Brigade and The Old Red Patch would be happy to help in the establishment of a Scholarship commemorating their old Commander, to whom it would show that Macdonell's men always "Stand To".

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

General Sir Arthur W. Currie,
G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
MacGill University,
Montreal.

W. Ross
Staff S.M.(WO).
*Please pardon the liberty I have
taken in writing to you.*

In order that the name of Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell, KCB. CMG. DSO, may be perpetuated at the College from which he graduated and now commands, and with a view to the name of a very gallant gentleman and loyal Canadian being preserved for all time in honoured memory, an effort is being made to establish a Scholarship at The Royal Military College of Canada, to be named:-

"THE GENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD MACDONELL SCHOLARSHIP".

It is intended that this Scholarship shall be available for any boy who otherwise would be unable, for financial reasons, to receive an education there.

I venture to suggest that there is nothing which would please General Macdonell more than that his name should continue to be associated with his Alma Mater and it is hoped that the Funds required for this purpose, \$10,000.00, may be subscribed by all classes and truly represent Canada, being Canada's recognition of the services of one who deserves well of his Country.

The Toronto General Trusts Corporation will act as Trustees of the Scholarship Fund, and cheques should therefore be made payable to that well known organization.

I am sure that this effort will have a particular appeal to you and I trust that you will find it possible to assist in this worthy effort. It is hoped that by the date of the Closing Exercises of the Royal Military College all details will have been completed and it will be possible for General Macdonell to be called upon to accept, on behalf of the College,

"THE GENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD MACDONELL SCHOLARSHIP",

Founded by Canadians to perpetuate at
The Royal Military College of Canada
the very gallant and distinguished
services to his Country of
Major-General Sir Archibald Cameron Macdonell,
K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., LL.D.,
who graduated from the R.M.C. in 1886.

Subscriptions, either large or small are acceptable in this truly national effort. The smallest offering of the ex-service man of "The Old Red Patch" is as welcome as the larger gift. This is Canada's Recognition. Let it be really representative.

For obvious reasons, it is imperative that this matter should not appear in the Press at present. At the opportune time, the Press will be given full and complete details.

Most Noble Order of Crusaders

Ottawa



Conclave No. 4

(Component Part British Empire Conclave)

11th April, 1925.

Personal.

Sir,

I thank you sincerely for your reply to my letter regarding a proposed Scholarship for the R.M.C. commemorating the services to his Country of Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell.

We had hoped to raise a sum of \$10,000., which would enable a Cadet to pass through the College without any expense to his parents, and besides would provide him with about \$250. on graduation with which to make a start in life. There would be no other Scholarship equal to it in the Dominion, I think.

Unfortunately, in taking the matter up with the authorities to ascertain whether, when the money was raised, it would be acceptable to the Government, there seemed a tendency to discourage further action and under the circumstances I do not see that we are justified in proceeding further with the scheme.

Needless to say, we are bitterly disappointed, particularly since our motive was to keep bright the memory of a beloved General. We had no personal interest. Though members of the Crusaders, we were acting as private citizens, so that it might not be thought the Order was out to benefit by the action.

As the time is now so short I fear, to my everlasting regret, that this opportunity for placing a much needed Scholarship at the College and at the same time honouring a great man, must be abandoned.

You will appreciate, Sir, that I write this in confidence.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

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

~~I am looking forward to the
boarding to the
board of directors
my last, but it is
hard to realize,
& I hope our new
spite for a
amiable the
at the day & I think
the day. I write
to you. I think there is
a great deal in the
war day yet
My hope is
I am sure of it
I am sure of it
I am sure of it
I am sure of it~~

The objects seem excellent but I don't want to get tied up to anything just now but I would appreciate your judgment in the matter,

The weather is cold here, the R.C.A. did me the honour of asking me to inspect them today 2 Horse artillery units & 1 heavy, as Belusley was all for it I did so, it was a very good inspection reflecting credit on Conroy & his outfit, I was sorry Lady M - was not here to see it, especially as they gave me 3 rousing cheers & a tiger that cold, I think have pleased the little Lady mightily

May 7th, 1925.

Personal and confidential.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

I would like if you would give me your impression as to whether or not politics have entered the Dominion Police, or whatever name is given to that body which has taken the place of the old Northwest Mounted Police.

I know the politician will exert influence wherever he can but I thought that maybe the traditions of the old force were still strong enough to combat that influence. I would value and respect a frank expression of opinion.

Yours faithfully,

May 8th, 1925.

Major-General Sir A.C.Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

I have your letter of yesterday with reference to the Order of the Crusaders.

I have heard of this organization for the past couple of years and about two years ago had some correspondence with a Captain Orr of Toronto in which he urged me to associate myself with it. Remembering something I had seen in a Toronto paper I asked him who were the leading spirits and in reply he told me that Colonel John Currie of Toronto was the head of the Order in Canada. That, of course, was enough for me and I intimated to Orr that I would take no action at that time.

When I was in Toronto last March a young officer came to see me and preferred the same request. I told him of my correspondence with Orr but made no mention of Currie. This young officer surmised what was in my mind and gave me the assurance that Currie had nothing whatever to do with it, although such had been stated in the Toronto Press. He told me that he, with some ten or fifteen other officers, went to Currie's office and forced him to admit that he had nothing whatever to do with the Order. He gave me certain literature which, I confess, I haven't yet studied other than to read over the objects of the Order which, as you say, seem excellent.

Sir A.C.Macdonell

- 2 -

Last month the following item appeared in a Toronto paper:

Imperialist Orders to Unite

Toronto, April 21st.

The Chivalric Order of Crusaders headed by Colonel A. Currie, M.L.A., and the 'Order of Crusaders of the British Empire, an official Imperial body' will amalgamate the Telegram says to-day. Colonel Currie's Order has Conclaves in Toronto, Hamilton and adjacent points, the Imperial body, which is the official Canadian jurisdiction, having been functioning in the Dominion for a year. The Crusaders is a secret "anti-revolutionary" order.

We all know the Telegram's attitude towards Currie, it having always been a most consistent supporter of him. Whether there is any truth in their item of April 21st or not, I do not know, but personally I prefer not to have anything to do with the Crusaders until no doubt remains as to his association with it. You will note the Telegram says "Colonel A. Currie" and not "Colonel J.A. Currie". I do not know whether this is meant to deceive or not.

With all good wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

KINGSTON.

May 9th

My dear General

Very many thanks for your letter re Crusaders, I am entirely in accord with you, no John A Currie business for me either,

The paper says Henri has gained his point & comes here on adjutant General's pay, wh the article says is just & right, I never received or sent of the entertaining allowance the Board recommended, or well nobody wants to bother themselves over an old dog whose day is done, if you see Lady M - drop me a line & let me know how she is looking, I think she needed the change
I am sir
yours sincerely
G. B. Macdonell

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

KINGSTON. 13th May 1925.

My dear General,

With reference to the idea which exists that I cannot draw my Militia pension in the event of my receiving an appointment in the Public Service of Canada; I request your permission to draw attention to Section eleven of the Militia Pension Act, which clearly shows that I should still be entitled to draw the amount awarded to me as pension for military service although employed in the public service of Canada, and in receipt of a salary for such service.

I attach hereto a copy of Section eleven, which covers my case, and as my pension was based on the pay & allowances of a Major-General of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces, (approximately \$10,000.) I could draw an annual rate of emolument, (as salary plus pension) not exceeding the total amount of the pay & allowances upon which my pension was computed. I believe, too, there are a number of precedents for this.

However, I cannot but feel that I could be employed in the public service of Canada, at a stated salary, and still enjoy the pension awarded to me in 1919, the first instalment of which I have drawn, but which has been held in abeyance during the tenure of my appointment as Commandant, of the Royal Military College of Canada.

appointed,

Section 11 not existing when I was

I appreciate more than I can say your efforts on my behalf, and I should be very pleased indeed to be honoured with the offer of such an appointment, especially as it was the position that you mentioned to me some time ago.

I should be very glad if you would give this Section your consideration, and let me know whether you concur.

I am Sir
With Kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

A. C. Macdonell

General, Sir, A. W. Currie, ~~C~~CMG., KCB., etc.

Chancellor, McGill University,
MONTREAL, P. Q.

Section eleven, Militia Pension Act, 1901.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,
KINGSTON.

II. If an officer to whom a pension has been granted under this Act is employed in the public service of Canada and is in receipt of a salary therefor, such pension shall be discontinued during the time such officer is in receipt of such salary unless the officer, prior to his retirement from the Force, served as an officer, non-commissioned or man, on active service outside of Canada or the United States during the war between Great Britain & Germany which commenced on the fourth day of August, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, in which case unless, prior to the coming into force of this Act, or subsequent to the coming into force thereof, it has been or, is otherwise ordered ~~ordered~~ by the Governor in Council the pension shall not be discontinued. Provided, however, that in the event of the gross annual pension granted to such last mentioned officer under this Act, together with the annual rate of salary which such officer is receiving in the Public Service of Canada, making an annual amount greater than the annual rate of pay and allowances upon which such officer's pension was computed the payments of pension to such officer during the time he is in receipt of a salary in the public service of Canada shall be reduced so that the annual rate of emolument received by such officer by way of salary and pension shall not exceed the annual rate of pay and allowances upon which his pension was computed.

Geo. V. c. 20. s. I.

Extract;-

Militia Pension Act, 1901.
as amended.

May 14th, 1925.

Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King,
Prime Minister,
Ottawa.

I wish to make an earnest appeal to you and to your Government to give the position rendered vacant by the death of Colonel Chambers to Major-General Sir Archibald Macdonell, now Commandant of the Royal Military College, Kingston. I am sure Sir Archibald would fill the position with dignity and grace and would be a popular personage around the Houses of Parliament.

The Macdonell family have had a long and honourable record in the history of Canada, have always been most sturdy in their patriotism and a splendid example to their countrymen as to their willingness to fight for their homeland and the Empire. But I do not base my plea on that, rather on the General's own personality and service. He is a clean-minded, clean-thinking, bluff soldier, outstanding in his sense of honour and right, in devotion to duty and in loyalty to all things Canadian. I think he has been the finest Commandant the R.M.C. has ever had. I know he regrets leaving there very much, feeling that the time has come when others regard him as having outlived his usefulness and that there is nothing for him to do but to lie around and die.

I am really worried about Macdonell believing that if he has nothing to do he will soon break up, for he has led a most active, strenuous life putting into his work always his last ounce of energy, mental and physical.

Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King -2-

You know that while he was at the R.M.C. he did not draw his pension, or if he took his pension he did not receive the Commandant's pay. By that arrangement during the six years he has been there he has saved this country at least \$36,000. I know that during those six years he has on more than one occasion pressed for a larger living allowance, but this was consistently refused by the Government and Macdonell leaves the R.M.C. in much poorer circumstances than when he assumed the headship six years ago. He has saved his country much but none for himself.

I know the pension regulations with reference to drawing pay and pension at the same time, but it seems to me that Section 11 of the Militia Pensions Act 1901, as amended, makes it possible for special consideration to be given Macdonell. I hope something may be arranged whereby he may be kept in harness and at the same time live his old age in comfortable circumstances.

May 16th, 1925.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G. &c.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear General:-

This morning I am in receipt
of the programme for the Advisory Board.

I shall go up on Tuesday
morning's train which leaves here at ten o'clock
standard time. I am sorry but I must return by
the afternoon train on Wednesday. This is an
extremely busy time at the University and I cannot
afford a minute longer away than is absolutely
necessary. On Monday I go to Ottawa, Tuesday and
Wednesday in Kingston and Friday in Quebec. So
you see there is not much time left for work here.

I wrote a long letter to
Mackenzie King and will see him and others on
Monday.

Yours faithfully,



Ottawa, May 26, 1925

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

Dear Sir Arthur Currie:

The Prime Minister has duly received your letter of the 14th instant, in which you bring to his attention the name of General Sir Archibald Macdonell for consideration in connection with the appointment of a successor to the late Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod.

At the moment, Mr. King has not opportunity to write you personally in reply. Rather, however, than delay an acknowledgment further, he has asked me to assure you that he will bear in mind, and bring to the attention of his colleagues in Council, your representations on Sir Archibald Macdonell's behalf.

I am desired to add that there is some question as to whether the Government has authority to make this

-2-

appointment, or whether the matter is one which will,
of necessity, be dealt with by the Senate and the Civil
Service Commission.

Yours faithfully,

L. C. Moye
Private Secretary.

Sir A. B. Macdonnell

June 2nd, 1925.

Sergeant-Major W. Boss,
37 Electric Street,
Ottawa, Ont.

My dear Sergeant-Major:-

I beg to acknowledge your
letter of June 1st addressed to General Currie.

Sir Arthur is in the hospital
after an operation and is therefore unable to write
you. However, he would like very much to have any such
tribute as you suggest sent to General Macdonell and I
am quite sure that General Macdonell would appreciate
it more than anything else.

Yours faithfully,

Wilfrid Bovey.

With the closing of The Royal Military College, the duties of Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., will practically cease after nearly forty years in His Majesty's uniform, and it has been suggested by some of those who remember with pride and affection that once they served under him, that the 22nd June should be "Telegraph Day".

The idea is that on the 22nd June, 1925, those who have at any time served under Major-General Sir Archibald Macdonell, or who have been associated with him, should send a message by telegram of congratulations on his past service and confidence in his future.

Those who know General Macdonell well, will readily understand how closely he attaches himself to his different commands, and will perhaps remember his sorrow on leaving successively The Royal North West Mounted Police, Strathcona's, the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade, and thousands still treasure his Final Order to the 1st Canadian Division.

The time has now come for him to sever his active connections with the R.M.C. and the moment is opportune and propitious for "Macdonell's men to show that the passing years have not dimmed their respect and affection for the old Chief.

I take the liberty of attaching hereto several specimen telegrams. One of these can be sent, or the sender can himself prepare one. The cost to each individual will be small, but the help it will give General Macdonell will be immeasurable.

Will you please give this matter your earnest consideration, and don't forget that the 22nd June is "Telegraph Day", and your telegram should be addressed to:-

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ontario.

If you know any others who served under General Macdonell's command, it would be much appreciated if you would pass the word along, in order that the venture may be an entire success. It is quite impossible for those handling this matter to get in touch with everyone and your co-operation would be welcome.

Major-General Sir A.C.Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ontario.

Macdonell's men stand to and expect
even greater triumphs in future.

Jones.
late Strathcona's.

Major-General Sir A.C.Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ontario.

One who served in past under you affectionately
remembers and sends regards.

Smith.
late 2nd Canadians.

Major-General Sir A.C.Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ontario.

Congratulations on the splendid past and best
wishes for the future.

Robinson.
late 49th Bn.

Major-General Sir A.C.Macdonell,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ontario.

Glad to be associated with your old comrades in
congratulations and good wishes.

Blank.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

KINGSTON.

June 6th

1925

my dear Colonel

am just a little nervous
about the Chief, wold appreciate
a line that all goes well,
I don't want to worry
him in the matter,

Yours sincerely

A. C. Macdonell

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,

KINGSTON.

June 13th

1925

my dear Chief

Morey's letter with the
splendid news that all is well
has taken a great weight off
my mind, I was more worried
than I can say, thank God all
is O.K.

Tomorrow is my last day
& then I am a free nigger!!!

Good bye Sir, be have journey
& do every d-d thing the
Doctor orders

In haste as ever
I am Sir yours sincerely
A. C. Macdonell

June 22nd, 1925.

Major-General Sir Archibald Macdonell, C.M.G., &c.,
Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ont.

My dear Mac:-

You will forgive me for not answering your kind note of June 13th before this.

I am beginning to feel quite myself again and consider myself extremely fortunate with reference to that troublesome operation. The Surgeon assures me that he did a good job and that the trouble is not malignant. I am trying to clean up my work and get away next Friday for the Old Country.

I notice in the Press this morning a dispatch from Ottawa indicating that Andy Thompson's son is likely to receive the appointment of Black Rod. I suppose the political influence of the young man's father was greater than the pleas of the rest of us. However, Mac, you are much better off without the position unless they were willing to give you the salary in addition to your pension, which they might very well have done and still left the country very much indebted to you.

I believe, Mac, that to-day completes forty years military service for you. In retiring you have the proud consciousness that you have done your duty in every respect as a good soldier, that you have set an example of manly conduct, unselfish service and good citizenship that will be held up as a model long after you have gone to your reward. You have borne a proud name and have worthily upheld its best traditions. I,

General Macdonell - 2 -

for one, am very proud to have served with you.

With kindest wishes always,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

THE RANCHMEN'S CLUB

CALGARY

Dec 10th

1925

My dear Chief

I am informed
that you have just
had your 50th birthday.
Heartiest congratulations
I hope the future has
nothing but good things
in store for you &
yours, it was amusing
to hear the comments
in the club "why! he
could only have been
20 & 20 when he joined
the Can Corps, impossible
& so on,
we have had a run
of bad luck first the

with my teeth, then lady
M with her & now
alison has been ordered
to bed for 3 weeks with
persistent indigestion
& an ulcerated lining
to her tumour, well
it can't be helped we
had our fat time &
it is only in the natural
course that we are now
due for a lean time.

Even old mick
canceled up at a
Vets Hospital for
about a week,

overspeeding, if you
ask me, but lady M
stoutly denies that,
I was sorry to see

3

Col Lang's death in the paper
I think he had a billet - he was well
fitted for & did well in it, there
are great possibilities in such a
billet with the right man in it
who can teach & inspire enthusiasm.

My respects & esteem to
Dad & Currie, again many
congratulations, entre nous
I think you should be made the
10th Canadian Governor General
when you are ready to leave the field.
I am Sir yours ever A. C. Macdonell

December 15th, 1925.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
The Ranchmen's Club,
Calgary, Alta.

My dear Mac:-

Thank you very much for your letter of the 10th and for the good wishes it contained. It must be somewhat difficult for those people who looked upon me as somewhere about 60 when I came back from the war to be told that now, seven years later, I am only 50. Yet I feel old enough at that.

I am very sorry indeed to hear of all the sickness you have had and I most sincerely hope that Miss Alison soon recovers. You had better get rid of the balance of your teeth and probably save yourself a lot of trouble. I thought all of you were looking very well indeed when I saw you in October. With us everything as regards health goes well except that my boy does not gain in weight. When he came down to us at Thanksgiving he was very thin and pale. Since that time he has gained a pound and a half, but the last four weeks has been stationary. I do not quite know what to do with him. He will be home next Friday when we shall let our own doctor have a look at him.

You will remember my telling you of the trip of George Gibson and myself over the battlefields. He has written a most excellent account of it which will appear in the January number of the Canadian Medical Journal, but I am getting some reprints and will send one along to you. Gibson writes most charmingly

Sir A.C. Macdonell

- 2-

and I am sure you will find this very interesting.

I haven't heard anything particular from Kingston except that there was some dissatisfaction with the Engineer Department and that a man from Toronto had been asked to apply for the position. This gossip comes through University circles and not from the R.M.C. I would be sorry to hear that Schmidlin is not doing well.

I saw Harold Aikins here last week. He had a little luncheon party at the Ritz attended by Allan Magee, Billy Shaughnessy, Bertie Ogilvie, Royal Ewing, Hugh Wallace, George McDonald and one or two other ruffians. He confirmed the news I had in Winnipeg that Hugh Dyer has got a position under the Manitoba Government. Hugh was in Winnipeg for the two days I was there and I saw a good deal of him. He looked well and was probably feeling more free from worry than usual. I believe his job is to go about the Province and list, value and report upon abandoned farms. I think he receives something like \$10.00 a day travelling expenses.

I haven't heard anything at all concerning the conference of Veterans interested in union which recently took place at Winnipeg. They asked me to be Honorary President, but I am convinced they regard the position as purely honorary, because since Haig's visit none of those interested have ever said a word to me about it. I do not know who this chap Moore is who has been chosen as President, but, between ourselves, the one report I did receive did not impress me very much.

Please remember me very kindly to Lady Macdonell and to Miss Alison, and with every kind wish to all of you for Christmas and the New Year, I am,

Yours faithfully,

December 22, 1925.

Lt. Col. H.H. Matthews, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
General Staff,
Militia Headquarters, Ottawa, Ont.

My dear Colonel:-

Today I heard some very distressing news with reference to the position in which Sir A.C. Macdonell's pension is. I am told that some back payments of the Government have not been made and that these amount to a very considerable sum.

Would you please investigate this matter and let me have full particulars. I would be very greatly obliged.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

January 4th, 1926.

Lt. Gen. Sir A. C. MacDonnell,
% Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ontario.

My dear General:-

Sir Arthur asked me to send on the enclosed correspondence to you, and I am very glad to have the opportunity of doing so because it gives me the chance of offering you my best wishes for the New Year.

I never had the fortune to serve under your command or in your Division, but I am one of a great many Canadians who, now that you have left the College and the service, feel that we would like to say how much we owe to the courage and devotion of a Commander who never feared and never failed.

Yours sincerely,

Encl.

Wilfrid Bovey.

THE RANCHMEN'S CLUB

CALGARY

Jan 7th

1926

my dear general

Nothing that I have
read lately has interested
me so much as
Gibson's article, many
thanks for sending
it me, I simply
sat down & devoured
it,

Alison is getting
better slowly, but
thank goodness
there is progress

The weather here has
been wonderful for
some weeks, how long
it will last no fellow
can tell, Connolly of
Strathcona's got married
on Tuesday, a very nice
woman, a widow, so I
hear, I think it will be a
good thing for himself &
the Regiment.

I sincerely trust all
goes well with you
& your people.

am fearful now that
Daddy M - has overdone
it looking after a lion
with all good wishes
to you & Lady Fannie

3
from us all

I am Sir
yours sincerely

A. C. Macdonell

I am so pleased
to hear Hugh Dyer
has an appointment

A.C.M.

private 302 600 A
confidentially
on the
out
for many
splendid letter
uncle Archie
been trying his
marks on has he? He'll
have more than the itch
when I get my meat hooks
on his, Dolly, Pally Corase,
I have been strongly advised
by friends to try for a seat on
the Liquor Control Board
of Ontario, which according
to the Premier is to be a
high class independent
Board, & it is worth trying
for, not being in politics
helps, but I don't know
whether it will or not,
I hate to trouble you with
but a line from you to

Howard Ferguson suggesting
me as a fitting person
who wold have the confidence
of returned men, ^{ex cadets relatives & friends} etc, wold
be a long steps in the right
direction, if you approve
of my trying for the job,
I am greatly distressed
about dear old Hugh & yes,
I love the old boy as you
do, am trying to catch
the mail, if only I could
pull this business off & get
back to old Ontario near
to you all again wold
cheer & so will dad, m-
& alison, the West is no longer
the west, at any rate not the
west we knew & loved in the
old days when I was a rolling
mth Bobbie full of the pride
of trace & trail & saddle,
I once said a good mth policeman
could ride a horse, pull a mth
or cuddle a girl with the best
The brute of a chairman wold
said Ride a girl!! Hugh a horse said!!

Home address

Calgary

3026 5th A^{ve} SW

Sept 2nd

I can't bear to think this month 1926
we lose Canada's best friend & best son
ever God bless em both
a min

My dear General

Here I am! in the Holy Cross
Hospital with a bad attack of that
painful & altogether unpleasant
complaint called "Shingles".
The "Doc" is tracing up the cause
apparently it starts from within. He
has ordered my few remaining teeth
pulled: proposes to remove my tonsils
& is busy & razing my tumour as he
suspects something wrong in
my bowels, So altogether I'm in for a
pleasant time. However, if I live

thru - all this "thoroughness"!!
I shall be in great shape for the
next war, don't sound the
"advance" just yet, but when
it does sound this old man
will be right on the job please.

This is to congratulate you,
if I may? on your truly wonderful
palea for the Canadian Militia
as usual you have hit the
nail squarely on the head. It
should be taken hold of by all the
Canadian Clubs in Canada &
widely circulated. I also in the

2

Some quarters read with pride & interest Bovey's great article on yourself Sir. He held his hand back, but covered the ground well & produced a modest (all too modest) truthful article which will be of great help to authors in years to come when some Canadian "Henderson" shall arise & do full justice to our Chief. I always felt he angelized Old Stone Wall a bit, and I dare say the same may be necessary in your case! Don't be cross if I say, I'm damn sure it will, but it was the fact that you were in addition to everything else so human, tolerant & broad minded & patient, wonderfully so, that made us love as well as admire you.

I have written 2 letters congratulating Bovey, was not satisfied with them & tore them up & then got in the grip of this horrid complaint.

I also started ³ a letter ^{with most by the found} to you,
Lady M - likes our little home here
so much that we will stay here
for the present at any rate,
I tell her its unfair to an
honest Macdonell, the fact
was something was found
to happen me, living with a
Campbell on Glen Rose Rd!
then when I got to Hospital
I found myself put in a
room called "the Campbell
Ward", Lady Mac arrived
with a crottage board & a
pack of cards with the Campbell
Barton & coat of arms on the
back, and a hazing ass of a
fellow called to see me &
immediately hurried out, so
glad to see you in the
Campbell Ward. Sir, you
know I proudly consider
myself a Campbell, Silly Billy
some people are easily
satisfied. Damn the brute, I
have an

uncomp^d feeling perhaps the
little lady put him up to it!!
anyhow its plain from the
above what a ladies affair
your old war horse is in!!

However I will give fate
everything if only disloyal
arrogant Mackenzie King
gets a good licking, Lord
how I detest that man, we
went a lot of Mackenzies
up once in a Church, but
that was Lang Syne & I
have never borne them any
grudge over it!!!!

To return to our muttons
so long & get the Canadian
Clubs to stand for a strong
manly, virile Canadianism
Loyal to Canada Loyal to
our King, our flag, our Empire,
Let your article be the cover
story & more power to your
effort, my respect & esteem to Lady
Lionel & Mrs. Sir yours sincerely
A. Macdonell



Ottawa
Dec 28th

My dear Sir Arthur

The facts regarding
General Sir Archie's
pension would seem
to be as shown on
the attached state-
ment.

I gather that the
deductions are strictly
according to "Hoyle"
and you

will notice that from
the middle of May next
the increase will be
 $\$387^{60}$ per annum; the
other large deduction
viz: $\$277^{19}$ being
added as from the
28th of April 1930, by
which time he will
be receiving his max-
imum or gross, pension
less only $\$30^{00}$ per annum.


MONTED 1873

I have reason to believe that the figures attached are accurate and to be relied on -

I had a long letter from Sir Archie just before Xmas, and except for the fact that Lady Macdonell was not too well and Alison also undergoing

hospital treatment. He
seemed quite cheerful
and pleased with the
fact that his work
at the Ranchman's
Club was keeping him
really busy.

I trust you are keeping
well and wish you
a very happy and
prosperous New Year.

Very sincerely yours

Harold Matthews

P.S. You will be surprised to
hear I am engaged to be
married to Miss Helen Lehn of
Atlanta.

Gross Pension

\$6189.44 per annum.

Net Pension.

	Gross	
		\$6189.44
Less unpaid Pension dues Act.Mil.	\$387.60	
do do P.Force	28.83	
do do RNWMP.& SA.	30.00	
do do do	42.00	
do do C.E.F.	277.19	765.62
		<hr/>
		\$5423.82

Net Pension.

\$5423.82 p.a. to be increased from 15-5-26 by \$387.60 when unpaid dues for Act.Mil. Service will have been paid, and from 18-1-27 by \$28.83 when unpaid dues for service in P.F. will have been paid, and from 29/7/29 by \$42.00 when unpaid dues for second period of R.N.W.M.P. service will have been paid, and from 28-4-30 by \$277.19 when unpaid dues for C.E.F, service will have been paid, and from 29-12-38 by \$30.00 when all unpaid pension dues will have been recovered.

January 4th, 1926.

Lieut.-Colonel Harold Matthews,
Department of National Defence,
Ottawa, Ont.

My dear Colonel:

Thank you very much for your letter of the 28th of December received by me this morning on my return from a visit to my old home in Ontario.

I had received what appeared to me very alarming information regarding the condition of the General's pension. It was intimated that he owed the Government something like \$9,000. and that he would receive no pension until this amount was paid up. I am very glad that such is not the case.

May I take this opportunity of offering you my most sincere congratulations on your engagement to Miss LeSueur. I hope that you will be very happy when married and that all good things are in store for you both.

Yours faithfully,

THE RANCHMEN'S CLUB
CALGARY

April 2

1926

my dear General

The last of the King
dinners is upon us,
but unfortunately I
shall not be able to
attend,

alison is recovering
fairly rapidly from her
somewhat serious
operation but the
strain on my little
wife has almost
proved too much

x I could not go away
x leave alison to carry
the load alone,
I have been trying to
get Lady in - to go
to B.C with alison
for a change but
"Theres never no doing
anything with a
Campbell", she seems
to think something
will happen to me or
to the precious Mike,
you know our
white abomination

of a full term, or to both,
my heart will be with you all
 It is a severe disappointment,
 more especially as it is goodbye
 to General Bzuz, a real idealist
 & real leader, no better ever wore
 our British uniform, it is enough
 honour for an old Crow but like
 me that I have had the good
 fortune to serve under you both
 love to all, don't omit anyone
 I am Sir your servant A. C. Macdonell

April 7th, 1926.

Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonnell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
The Ranchmen's Club,
Calgary, Alta.

My dear Mac:-

Thanks very much for your letter
of April 2nd.

I am so sorry to hear that you find it impossible to attend the Vimy Dinner. I am going up on Friday afternoon and look forward to this being a very happy affair. You have heard, of course, that we are presenting Byng with a motor car and to Her Excellency will be given a portrait of the Governor General painted by some artist in Ottawa. The response to the appeal for funds did not produce anything like the amount I expected, but, nevertheless, it will be possible to give him a very fine car, the General Motors Company granting a particularly good price.

I was very sorry to hear of Miss Alison's operation and am glad to know that she is now better. Hugh Wallace told me about it a few weeks ago. I saw him at the luncheon given to Allenby.

You will see Byng on his farewell western trip. He leaves at the end of next week and will be in the West until the end of June. He is coming here for four or five days about the middle of June and spends Dominion Day in Toronto, I think. I have no notion as to the identity of his successor. One hears Willingdon's name mentioned and also Cromar's. To my mind these two are the best of those suggested. We have, of course, heard of Haig, Allenby and Cavan -

Sir A.C. Macdonnell - 2 -

all good soldiers, but it doesn't follow that because Byng has made such a splendid success of his position another soldier will do as well. Just now we have visiting in Montreal the Duchess of Atholl. Their names have been mentioned and I think would be acceptable. He always impressed one as a very bluff, hearty, good-natured fellow, while she is particularly nice, I think, - a well educated woman with no foolish notions of pride or superiority. Possibly Basil Brooke may be able to give us the latest London gossip regarding the Governor Generalship. I see by the papers he has arrived in Ottawa. I think he has made this visit merely to be present at the Vimy Dinner. I have not heard of his accompanying Byng to the West.

I do not know when I shall see you again. I am not going West this year and have no idea when I shall get out again.

Please remember me very kindly to Lady Macdonnell and to Miss Alison.

With all good wishes to you, old man, I am,

Yours ever,

personal

THE RANCHMEN'S CLUB

CALGARY

June 28th

1926

my dear Chief

June 30th sees me
at a loose end, it became
increasingly apparant
that I was too expensive
a luxury for the club
although all were kindness
& courtesy itself, even those
most bitterly opposed to
my appointment, (needless
to say I knew nothing of
opposition when I accepted)
So I made up my mind
to get all departments
running smoothly & to
a profit instead of a loss

& then fade away, the
audit was a satisfactory
one & even ^{remortment made} ^{profit} ^{type members}
& a large deficit was
pretty well wiped out,

The Committee asked
me to remain until
the end of the year but I
declined, It is a good
maxim for a banachian
"to go whilst the going
is good," They did a number
of things to show their
good will & respect
for me, so that I leave
with honours, presenting
me with "an ordinary
membership" with an

expressed wish that I
remain one for managers
being the most outstanding
proof they were in earnest.

The question is what
next,? I can't idle,
It has been suggested to
me that I might find
a readable work & incidentally
a certain amount of
profit in writing either
my memoirs or stories,
True ones, of life in the
Mild Police, S. A. &
Great war, the question
is would any magazine
accept them & if so
which one should
I apply to? Can you

give me any advice,
I have been greatly
cheered by R.M, C &
good showing during
the year, Francis is
the right man in the
right place, Harland
MacDougall wised me
that Tommy had won
the Vandermissen
award, a proud
Tribute to a cadet,
and Tommy earned
it all the way, It was
good news to hear he
actually had it, we
received several wires
saying we were missed
wh pleased us all,
one is so soon forgotten
in our present day hustle

I thought Lady M -
 wd be for moving onto
 the coast at once, but
 the truth is she does
 not feel up to move
 just now being very tired,
 so for the present we
 will live on here,
 if only I can have the
 luck to get something
 that will keep me from
 being too blue & enable
 me to pick up a few
 pawbees, all will be well
 old Soldier men like me
 old all have been killed
 off in the last battle!
 or well what's the use of
 worrying? my respects extend
 to Lady & Burdie,
 I am, Sir
 yours sincerely
 A. B. Macdonnell

July 6th, 1926.

Personal.

Major-General Sir A. C. Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G., &c.
The Ranchmen's Club,
Calgary, Alta.

My dear Mac:-

When I came back to the office after a week's splendid fishing with Herbert Molson down on the Bonaventure I found your letter of June 28th.

Frankly, I can say that I was not surprised that you gave up your position at the Club. While I was not one of those old officer friends of yours who thought you should not have taken the position, I at all times felt you would remain there but a few years. I hoped that those few years would subdue your restless spirit, but it seems that you are still as keen as ever to be busy.

My suggestion with reference to increasing your income by writing short stories descriptive of early life in the Northwest would be that you get in touch with publications like Maclean's Magazine, who, I believe, would be glad to be the medium for you to reach the public. I have several friends who write for Maclean's and they tell me that they are paid sufficient to make it worth while. You must have a very rich fund of experiences on which you can draw and I think have the ability to prepare the matter in an interesting and readable form. Why not write to Colonel Maclean, the owner of Maclean's Magazine as a starter.

Major-General Macdonell - 2 -

I still believe you would do well to move to the Coast, where living is not only more pleasant but, I believe, less expensive. As I have often told you I think you would find there a very congenial atmosphere, not only for yourself, but for Lady Macdonell and your daughter, both of whom I hope have fully recovered from their recent illnesses.

I suppose that during the past week your thoughts have often turned to the Governor General, who, by acting in a decent manly way, has run foul of the ambitions of certain politicians. I am very sorry all this has occurred, particularly at the end of Byng's very successful tenure of office. It is hard to estimate what the result of Mackenzie King's contention may be. If he fights the election on this issue and is sustained it is bound to result in a widening of the breach between Canada and the Motherland, and incidentally throws us a little more towards the United States. If Canada should leave the fold of the Empire I believe that Canada would break up. While independence may be her ultimate destiny I do not think we are quite strong or stable enough at the present time to stand as united Canada by ourselves. Of course with Mackenzie King the fate of Canada counts as nothing to his own political success and the success of his party. As you can see he has appealed to all the radical and anti-Empire interests and we may yet have to set up an advanced battle headquarters.

If any other ideas come to me regarding publication of material you may have on

Major-General Macdonell - 3 -

hand I shall not hesitate to make suggestions
to you.

Please write to me soon and
with my very kindest wishes to the family and
yourself, I am,

Yours faithfully,

January 10th, 1927.

Major-General Sir A.C. Macdonell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
3026 - Six A Street,
Calgary, Alta.

My dear Mac.:-

Coincident with your letter of the 5th came an invitation from Spry with reference to the Vimy Dinner celebration.

There is no use Mac, I cannot go. I have tried to tell him how sorry I am, but I do not see how I can spare the time to go so far away. This promises to be an exceedingly busy Spring at McGill. There are many new things on the tapis and I propose keeping my nose pretty close to the grindstone. I am looking forward to going West this Fall and I cannot make two trips in the year.

Thank you for all your good wishes to my wife and to Colonel Bovey. Both ask to be remembered to you. Please remember me kindly to Lady Macdonell and to Miss Alison.

Yours ever,

3026 SIX "A" ST, W

Calgary Jan 5th 1927

My dear General

Calgary soldiers in general
& the Alberta Military Institute
in particular have set their hearts
on having you with us for our
ving dinner in April next, the
10th anniversary.

please come if you possibly
can,

There is more in the request
than meets the eye ^{every one}
here feels you have ^{never} received a
real welcome & reception at
Calgary & this will afford the
opportunity to do the thing right,
as western men say.

If you can make the
grade Sir everyone will be
proud & pleased & none more
so than your old warhorse
who pens these lines,

my respects & esteem to
Lady Currie, please give my
kindest regards & best wishes
for 1927 to 1929.
may 1927 bring you the best ever
I am Sir yours sincerely
Archibald Cameron Macdonell

December 1st, 1926.

Major-General Sir A.^C.Macdonell, K.C.M.G.,
3026 - Six A Street,
Calgary, Alta.

My dear Mac.:-

I have felt heartily ashamed of myself for some time because I neglected to answer the letter you wrote to me from the hospital, but I have been so infernally busy with the matters coming before the Quebec Church Property Commission, of which I am chairman, that I find myself far behind in my work. I am heartily sorry that I ever accept the Chairmanship. I should have known better than to attempt to straighten out the difficulties between the Presbyterians and the United Church. However, it is all over now and while I know the decisions will not satisfy every one, still they may form a basis of negotiation between the parties and in the end we will have been responsible for helping in some degree. I, of course, have little or not legal knowledge and so, instead of trying to act as a judge, I attempted merely to become the jury. Each side had very able counsel and my fellow Commissioners knew Church law and practices and the history of this dispute from beginning to end. I think it was just as well that I knew little law and had made little study of the Church Union question. Each side was always urging what it understood to be the agreements arrived at before legislation was effected, but I tried to rid my mind of everything except what the Act provided.

I am glad to know that you have fully recovered from whatever it was that afflicted you. I have heard different accounts. You, yourself, have told me that it was shingles, and I have never had any reason to question your veracity, but when I

Sir A.C.Macdonell

- 2 -

was down in Saint John, N.B. on Armistice Day I met your nephew, the General and Senator, who intimated to me, confidentially, that it was not shingles but good old-fashioned Scottish itch. I can well appreciate your modesty, but perhaps since you have fully recovered there is no need to make any further reference to it.

We had a splendid time in Saint John and your name was many times mentioned. Some three or four hundred officers had gathered together from all over the Maritimes and we had a great dinner in the Admiral Beatty Hotel. The next morning I met a couple of old ruffians at breakfast whom you will remember very well, - Johnny Angus, Macdonald from Cape Breton and Boyd Anderson from Moncton. Little Thacker came up looking as dapper and cheerful as ever. Grog Anderson is the D.O.C. of that district now and seems to be getting along as well as could be expected. Sparling, who was MacB's Brigade Major is his principal staff officer. It was my second visit to the Maritimes in recent months because I was down to Amherst, N.S. about the first of September, when I spoke to the Canadian Legion Convention meeting there. For that we had a fine turnout. They met me at the station with a guard of honour who had drilled for ten successive nights under an R.C.R. Sergeant-Major sent up from Halifax for the purpose. Thacker and Charlie Bent headed a large group of officers also present at the station. Bent constituted himself my staff officer during the three days I was in Amherst. I do not know what he is doing now, but, apparently, he has given up the farm and lives principally in Halifax. I did hear that he was Moving Picture Censor for Nova Scotia.

On Saturday night we had a dinner of the Legion and I was the principal speaker. It was a very enthusiastic gathering. On Sunday I joined the parade and marched to the Cenotaph, where wreaths were placed. Then we proceeded to the Park where one of our well known chaplains (whose name I have just forgotten) conducted the services. In the afternoon I unveiled a Memorial at Parrsboro. Some time I intend taking a motor trip through the Maritimes.

Sir A.C.Macdonell

- 3 -

Everything at McGill is proceeding normally with the largest attendance we have had for some years and I think I see evidence of progress.

In the Military world here there is nothing new other than that Billy King has come from London to succeed Charlie Armstrong, who merely exchanged with him. King ought to do very well here and I think his coming was welcome. Basil Price has given up the old 14th and has been succeeded by McKenna, whom you may recall. Ned Cape commands the Artillery and Stan Matheson the Royal Highlanders, with Macpherson in command of the 13th and Gavin Ogilvy of the 42nd. Gilbert Stairs is O.C. of the Guards. As you know we can turn out a first rate crowd of the old ones when necessary. The Officers' Club here has a membership of nearly 500 and pays its way very nicely. Paul Tudor spent an evening with me on his way to England where he now resides. He was very loath to leave Canada, but his Mother is getting old and I think he is the heir to whatever estates there are.

I had had news the other day concerning Daddy Dyer. I hear he has practically nothing except his cheerful nature. This year, I am told, he lost his crops as all his farm-buildings were burned, while at the same time he suffered from blood poisoning. I believe the job which Harold Aikins told me had been arranged for him has petered out. There is none of those whom we knew so well 'over there' who deserves more than Dyer and he seems to be the most unfortunate of all. I wish I could help in some way but I do not know what to do.

I am interested in what you told me about the Presidency of the Calgary Canadian Club and the Boy Scout Commissionership. I believe you should accept the former whatever you do with the latter. There is no reason why you should not accept both. Canadian Clubs are fine institutions, if for no other reason than that they bring together from time to time the best men in the community and therefore provide a group which can be made effective when the necessity arises. At the same time I do not think they achieve all that it

Sir A.C.Macdonell

-4. -

is possible for them to do and I so expressed myself to Gordon Spry who was here about a month ago consulting with me in that respect. He has taken on, as you know, the Secretaryship of the Canadian Clubs of Canada.

There is one fact that I think should be kept ever before the minds of our Canadian people and that is that a man may be a good Canadian and a good Imperialist at the same time. There are those who think that good Imperialism involves the keeping of Canada in perpetual subserviency to Great Britain, while there are others who profess to believe that good Canadianism involves the weakening of ties that bind us to the Motherland. I often think that Canadian Clubs should not be satisfied with merely meeting together to hear some distinguished visitor who happens to be in town. They should make a more determined effort to familiarize themselves with all the phases of all the questions affecting our country's life.

I am very sorry to learn that Lady Macdonell has been laid up. I hope that all she needs is a good rest. Please remember me kindly to her and to Miss Alison.

I do not know when I shall get out West again and hope it won't be too long, for it always gives great inspiration to one to go across our country and see the progress that has been made; while the meeting with so many old friends is a source of great pleasure.

With all good wishes for Christmas and the New Year, I am, dear Mac.,

Ever yours faithfully,

