

*Student fees*

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
1440 UNION AVENUE  
TEL. LANCASTER 6421

# Christ Church Cathedral

Montreal

October 7th., 1932.

THE VERY REVEREND ARTHUR CARLISLE, D. D.  
DEAN AND RECTOR

Sir Arthur W. Currie,  
Principal, McGill University,  
M o n t r e a l.

Dear Sir Arthur:-

One of the ladies of my Congregation came to me the other day in great distress over an appeal which had been made on behalf of a student in Medicine at McGill, who was having a hard time paying his way this year. He, according to her story, was passing from door to door asking for odd jobs by means of which he might earn enough to help him through his year. She suggested, that when the Foot-Ball Season is over, the Field House at the Stadium might provide rooming accommodation for a few such men. This may be impracticable and it may be unnecessary, but this good soul was evidently so distressed at the thought of students being driven to ask for work from door to door, and was so much in earnest in her suggestion that I could not get rid of her until I promised to write to you on the subject.

With very kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Arthur Carlisle*  
Dean and Rector.

*To Dean Martin*

*To note please and return*

*8/10/32*

*Arthur*



MCGILL UNIVERSITY

October 12th, 1932.

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal - McGill University,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur,

With respect to the accompanying letter,  
I have made enquiries and cannot locate any student  
in such dire straits as Dean Carlisle refers to.

On the other hand, I have told the Dean  
himself if he can ascertain the name of the boy  
(and he tells me he is now making efforts) we will  
send for him at once and see what we can do.

Trusting this will be satisfactory,

Faithfully yours,

*C. J. Martin*  
DEAN.

26th March, 1929.

Mr. F. A. Echlin,  
Third Year - Medicine,  
McGill University.

Dear Mr. Echlin,

I have received the petition, dated March 19th, from a number of students, and inasmuch as your name is on the top of the list of signatories, I am addressing my reply to you.

As I understand it, this matter of fees came up at the time of your entrance, and it was considered then, and the regulation was made that those coming in at such a time as you gentlemen did should pay the new fees. I believe that this ruling was accepted by all those who entered, and under those conditions. I do not see how we could very well make a change now.

However, if I am wrong in this matter, or if there is anything new concerning it, I shall be very glad to see you and to talk it over.

Very cordially yours,

CPM

Acting Principal.

Montreal, March 19, 1929  
McGill Medical Building.

Dr. C.F. Martin,  
Acting Principal,  
McGill University.

Dear Sir:

We, the premedical students of 1924-25 would like to recall to your attention the new ruling of fees brought into effect in 1926.

In 1924-25, we the undersigned entered the pre-medical course with the understanding that the fees were to be \$205.00 per annum. In 1926 the fees were raised to \$250.00 per annum for students entering the University in that year. Since we had entered the University in 1924-25 we did not see how this ruling could affect us. We were however obliged to pay the new fees. It was also seen that this new rise in fees would seriously affect those students who had previously planned their entire budget according to the rating of fees submitted to them on entering their course.

In 1927-28 those students taking a B.A., M.D. course with whom we entered the University in 1924 entered the first year of medicine. These students continued to pay \$205.00 per annum, whereas we, taking a purely medical course leading simply to an M.D., C.M. degree were paying \$250.00 per annum and have been made to do so for the past three years.

We consider ourselves justified in our appeal and sincerely hope that we may be reinstated to our original status.

Anything you can do for us in this matter will be deeply appreciated.

We remain,

Very respectfully,

*J. E. Eblin*  
*S. M. Gardner*  
*B. B. Walker*  
*D. Chernoy*  
*F. R. Connell*

*R. P. Gregory*  
*O. Nutik*  
*L. L. Bloom*  
*F. John de Prume*  
*A. K. Moffat*  
*H. C. Munnis*

Six West Fifteenth Street,

New York City.

July the seventh, 1927.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,

It has now been three years since I have experienced the pleasure and satisfaction which comes of residing on Canadian soil, in this time have been in hospital and industrial work in five cities of the United States for periods of from six months to a year, from Detroit to Baltimore. I can now safely say that I know a great deal more medically than I did on leaving McGill, in as much as I now know that I know nothing, an improvement undoubtedly. I can also say that I appreciate my Canadian citizenship and the opportunity of living in Canada much more fully than I did before.

My object of writing is to bring before you, Sir, some ideas I have harboured for awhile past, in regard to the possibility of curtailing in some measure the exodus of large numbers of our men to the United States, as remaining here, Canada loses the benefits of their training and citizenship, which she sorely needs.

Cannot something be done to explain the situation as it is here from a medical standpoint to the students sometime before their graduation. Would it not be feasible and practical to have a McGill man, an older graduate residing in the United States, one who still retains his Canadian citizenship and is in a position

to

to know conditions as they are in the United States relative to the opportunities here for young medical men, to speak to the students say during their third or fourth year, when they are formulating plans as to where they may go and why. A few random points which might be covered are,

1. The status of medicine in the United States as compared with Canada.
2. The general class of fellow practitioners with whom one associates
3. The higher development and recognition of quack cults in this country which one has to contend with in the honest practice of Medicine.
4. The comparative mercenary basis on which the practice of Medicine is placed here.
5. The fact that for the time being one may have to live on less at home, but will live more, get more out of life and associate with a people of better stock than is generally possible here.
6. The value of British citizenship to those who will contemplate surrendering their birthright for a mess of pottage. (Especially when travelling outside of America will they appreciate this).

It is futile to endeavour to get these men to return to Canada after they have driven stakes here, but it does seem possible to do something at the source, before plans are made and before they actually come to this country.

I have talked with a good number of the younger chaps who have come down from our four Eastern schools. Many cross the border with the idea of obtaining their training in the institutions here and then returning to Canada, but before coming or after residing here awhile a goodly number contemplate transferring their allegiance and remaining here as United States citizens. Some of the older men

would

would appreciate the opportunity of returning to Canada, but are settled here and that is that. Practically all I have spoken to, young or older, are of the opinion that Canada is 'down' and offers very few opportunities for medical men as compared with the United States. Very possibly true, as far as the opportunities are concerned, provided one is willing to put up with the discrepancies referred to before. Canada is far from 'down', is it not possible that in fifty years time, providing that Canada preserves her law enforcement and similar methods of selection of immigrants, she will be in a commanding position over the United States, but the fact of a great number of our best trained blood giving what they have to the United States instead of to their own country does not help matters out any to say the very least.

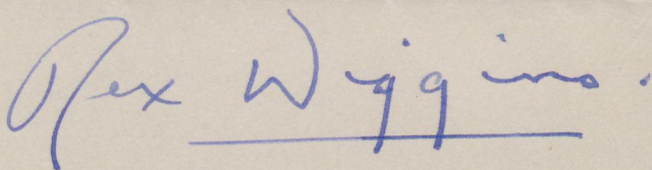
Another method may be to make the most of the opportunities we have in Canada, the authorities to obtain the facts of such and presenting them to the students. Before graduation, the student has in mind, mainly from lack of opportunity to learn of positions and posts at home, the idea that there are many opportunities for ~~them~~<sup>him</sup> in the United States. There are undoubtedly some, but does he know that the gold nuggets are not to be culled from the surface soil, , that they are down deep and one has to dig hard and fast before he reaches them and that there are many digging. Also does he know of the circumstances under which he will have to work and the associations which he will have.

It is not to condemn the practice of the graduate of McGill and other Canadian schools obtaining part of their training in institutions in the United States, this is commendable I think, but to make certain he does not lose sight of the idea of returning to his own country and serving her as a Canadian. The other idea of coming here  
and

and giving all we have gained at home, does savour of getting all and giving nothing, not serving where service is due.

You have thought of this matter, Sir, a great deal I know and it is with some timidity that I offer these few suggestions, but do hope they may be in part responsible for further suggestions of a more practical nature.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rex Wiggins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Rex Wiggins.



July 13th, 1927.

Dr. Rex Wiggins,  
6 West Fifteenth Street,  
New York City.

My dear Wiggins:-

Your very interesting letter to Sir Arthur Currie has been handed to me in his absence and I am taking this opportunity to reply to it meanwhile.

I am quite sure that you realize as well as many others how much it does really concern us to see such an exodus from Canada to the United States. May I add, however, that in the Medical Faculty we are making every effort to keep them here, to develop Canadian doctors to remain on Canadian soil. We have recently obtained four scholarships for Canadian students, who, when they graduate, will be encouraged to remain, and we are trying to do our best to keep the pick of our graduates in Canada. The various points you mention might well be covered in annual talks to our students are well worthy of note, and for my own part in the Faculty of Medicine, I shall make use of them when the occasion arises next session.

I know Sir Arthur will be delighted to hear of your continued interest in

Dr. Rex Wiggins

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the University.

letter, I am,

With many thanks for your

Yours faithfully,

Acting Principal.