

MC GILL UNIVERSITY  
MONTREAL

FACULTY OF MEDICINE  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

27th February, 1928.

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

Dear Sir Arthur,

I have just received the resignation  
of Miss Jean Cameron, Assistant Librarian of the  
Medical Library, to take effect on March 24th, 1928.  
She is shortly to be married to Dr. W. B. Howell.

We are making arrangements of a  
temporary nature pending the arrival of the Osler  
Library!

Faithfully yours,

*C. J. Martin.*  
DEAN.



The Medical Library  
McGill University

Address all Communications  
to the Honorary Librarian.  
Med. L. 5-8. / '26.

Montreal, Feb. 4th, 1926.

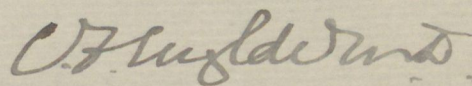
Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G.,  
Principal,  
McGill University.

My dear Sir Arthur:

I received your letter of the 2nd inst. asking for certain information in regard to the Library - and comparison with the Western University. It will take a little time to get these details from London and to look into our own periodical situation and I will let you have them as soon as possible.

I am asking Dr. Oertel to meet me at the Library and discuss his department. This I feel is the most satisfactory way to deal with his statement.

Yours faithfully,



Honorary Librarian.



February 2nd, 1926.

Dr. C. F. Wylde,  
101 Crescent Street,  
Montreal.

My dear Wylde:-

At the last meeting of the Medical Faculty Professor Macallum made rather a bitter comment as to what he termed the gaps in our Medical Library, claiming that the Library of Western University at London, Ont. was much better equipped.

In conversation with Dr. Macallum yesterday he repeated that statement and I would like to have from you just what is your appreciation of the completeness of our Library as compared with that of Western. In the course of my conversation with Professor Macallum he told me that Professor Oertel had stated to him that no journals in Pathology had been added to the Library in the last ten years. I imagine this is a somewhat loose statement and I would like to know from you whether it is true.

Is there any way in which you can find out how much Western University spends on its Medical Library each year?

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



The Medical Library  
McGill University

Address all Communications  
to the Honorary Librarian.  
Med. L. 5-8. / '26.

Montreal, Feb. 17th, 1926.

Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G.,  
Principal,  
McGill University.

300  
4200 -  
5000  
8-  
4  
1200

Dear Sir Arthur:

I beg now to furnish you with the following information regarding the condition of the Medical Library and especially with reference to a comparison with the Western Medical School Library.

1. The amount for expenditure for current year at McGill is \$3,200 - Western University has \$2,000 for current periodicals alone. They also have a special fund for the purchase of books and gaps, which figures I was not given: but may obtain later.

2. After consulting the Catalogue of Scientific Periodicals in Canadian Libraries compiled to 1923, there can be no question that our Library is better equipped up to that date.

The Western University now receives 173 current periodicals, no duplicates, whilst our list consists of 390 with 10 titles duplicated.

3. During the past year we have received 26 separate requests from the Western University Library for the loan of journals, all of which, except two, we were able to supply. During the same period we borrowed one periodical from them.

[N.B. This does not prove much except that gaps do exist in Western University and that they have found our Library very helpful.]

4. German journals. Up to 1923 we subscribed for 47 titles from Germany. These sets are relatively complete. Owing to the greatly increased cost of these publications I was forced to cancel our subscriptions to 36 of them. Since January 1925 I have added 8 more titles so that we are now subscribing to 19 German journals.

To Dr. A. B. MacCallum,  
18/2/26 Please note and  
return to me, W. Currie



In addition to this, since January 1925, I have spent the sum of \$1,322.30 in purchasing missing numbers of which \$1,045.45 was used for German publications. To make our files of these 47 German titles complete we would require approximately \$4,000 and a yearly increase of \$1,000.

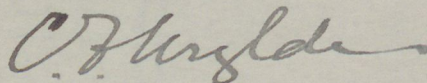
As a matter of interest I have noted the titles of a few German periodicals with their respective prices for 1914 and 1926.

	<u>1914</u>	<u>1926</u>
Archiv für klinische Chirurgie	40	56
Archiv für pathologischen Anatomie ... (Virchow)	16	96
Archiv für ... Physiologie (Pflüger)	10	50
Beiträge zur pathologischen Anatomie	6	8
Biochemische Zeitschrift	35	55.80
Zeitschrift für klinische Medizin	16	32
Zeitschrift für physiologische Chemie	18	18

With regard to Dr. Oertel's statement I may say that Professor Oertel spent an hour with me in the Library one day last week and I am enclosing you a copy of his letter to me and my answer which I am sure is sufficiently explanatory.

Trusting that this information may be satisfactory,  
I remain,

Yours sincerely,



Honorary Librarian.

ENCL./



February 18th, 1926.

Dr. C. F. Wylde,  
Honorary Librarian,  
The Medical Library,  
McGill University.

Dear Dr. Wylde:-

Thank you very much for your  
letter of February 17th with the information  
about the Medical Library.

This is just what I wanted and  
very interesting.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



For the Principal.

There will be a  
meeting of Dean  
Martin, Dr. Simpson,  
Dr. Lytle, and the  
Librarian at 11 A.M.  
Fri. Nov. 23. in the  
Medical Bldg.

9122.



MEMO ON MEDICAL LIBRARY

(Nov. 21, 1923. G.R.L.)

- I. The proposed closer relation between the Medical Library and the University Library would have the following advantages:-
1. From the point of view of administration it would be carrying out the general policy of university organisation and of having one budget for one university department.
  2. From the point of view of the Faculty of Medicine it would be carrying out the new policy of organisation by departments rather than control by committees, and it would give the Faculty increased representation on the University Library Committee without removing its control of the selection of medical books.
  3. From the point of view of the University Library it would bring the organisation of this Library in line with that adopted in the majority of large universities, and unify the work of certain library departments.
  4. From the point of view of the students it would do away with the additional deposit of \$5.00 from medical students who wish to use the Redpath Library, and would solve the problem of the status of such readers as Graduate Nurses and students of Physical Education.
- II. The following scheme for administration of the Medical Library is suggested:-
1. It should become a part of the University Library, holding the same relation to the whole as does the Library of the Faculty of Law.
  2. The routine details of the departments of ordering, cataloguing, circulation, binding, and reports should be under the supervision of the University Librarian.
  3. The Hon. Medical Librarian would have control of and be responsible for:-
    - (a) The selection of all books to be bought or withdrawn.
    - (b) The selection or cancelling of all periodicals.
    - (c) The answering of all correspondence not concerned with paragraph 2 above.



- (d) The reception of distinguished visitors to the Medical Library.
  - (e) The representation of the Medical Library, when necessary, at Medical or Library Conventions.
4. The Hon. Medical Librarian shall be at liberty to appoint a sub-committee of an advisory nature for the selection of books and periodicals (see paragraph 3 a and 3 b), and the University Librarian shall place at his disposal all medical book-lists received. It is suggested that this purchasing committee do not exceed five in number, and that it represent as far as possible different departments in the Faculty.
  5. The Medical Faculty shall have two representatives on the University Committee, one of whom shall be the Dean (or in his absence the Secretary of the Faculty) and the Honorary Librarian. (This has to be approved by Corporation.)
  6. The Osler Library should be a special library of the Medical Library, and be related to it in the same way as the Blackader Library of Architecture, the Blacker Library of Zoology, the E.S. Wood Library of Ornithology, and the Baillie Library of Chemistry to the University Library: a sub-committee, of which the Head of the Department concerned is Chairman, and the Librarian is Secretary.



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LIBRARY OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL

GERHARD R. LOMER, M.A. Ph.D.,  
LIBRARIAN

October 27, 1921.

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal,  
McGill University.

MEDICAL LIBRARY

Dear Sir Arthur:

I am enclosing for your information  
a copy of a memorandum on the relation between  
the Medical Library and the University Library  
which I have sent to the Hon. Librarian of the  
Medical Library as a result of an informal dis-  
cussion of this subject at the last meeting of  
the Library Committee on Tuesday, October 18th.

Faithfully yours,

G.R. Lomer.

Enc.

University Librarian.



MEMORANDUM ON THE RELATION BETWEEN  
THE MEDICAL LIBRARY AND THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

(From the University Librarian to the Hon. Librarian of the Medical Library).

October 27, 1921.

I SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

1. The proposals that follow involve no radical change in the present organization of the Medical Library, and no change that would be immediately apparent to the members of the Faculty or the students using the Library. No change is contemplated in the location of books or property of the Medical Library.
2. The present Library Committee of the Medical Faculty would be replaced by, say, two representatives instead of one on the University Library Committee.
3. The students would have the advantage of being able to use the University Library without an additional deposit of \$5.00. (See University Calendar, 1921-1922, p. 343, Rule 3).
4. The Medical Library would be relieved of the details of ordering, though it would still continue to recommend and catalogue its own purchases.

II GENERAL POLICY OF LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION

1. Experience elsewhere has proved that the co-ordination of departmental and faculty libraries under one general administrative committee is the most satisfactory method of organization. The University Library Committee, in following out this policy, has, in the last two years, brought within the University Library the Physics Library, the School of Commerce Library, and the small but growing collections belonging to the Social Service Department, the School for Graduate Nurses, and the Physical Education Department, though these retain their own reading rooms in different parts of the Campus and have their own duplicate catalogues.



II GENERAL POLICY OF LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION, cont'd.

2. The Medical Library, though still unrelated in this manner to the University Library, nevertheless anticipated this policy as early as March 10, 1894, when a deputation from the Faculty of Medicine, consisting of Dr. Shepherd and Dr. Adami, made the following proposal which it was unanimously agreed to report to Corporation:

"That the Library of the Medical Faculty, and any books the Medical Faculty may hereafter add thereto, should be removed to the University Library and placed in the custody of the University."

After careful consideration of this proposal in its various aspects as affecting the Library, and particularly as to the need of increased accommodation in the Stack, and as to the cost of operating the Library in event of the acceptance of the proposal, (the item of cost, apart from any extra provision for cataloguing purposes, having been estimated by the Librarian at a minimum of about \$7,500. per annum) it was unanimously agreed to report to Corporation as follows:

1. That this Committee approves of the general principle of the concentration of the several libraries of the University.
2. That the Committee further approves of the following proposals of the deputation of the Medical Faculty, viz:-
  - (a) To remove to the University Library, and place in the custody of the University, the present Medical Library, and any books that the Medical Faculty may hereafter add thereto.
  - (b) To defray, annually, a portion of the expense of maintaining the University Library; the amount contributed for this purpose, in any given year, to be paid at the rate of \$2.00 for each student whose name appears upon the books of the Medical Faculty, on the year in question.
  - (c) That the Medical Library be kept separate as being the property of the Faculty of Medicine.
  - (d) That the Faculty of Medicine have representation on this Committee.

It was agreed before the meeting adjourned that the above proposals do not contemplate the re-cataloguing of the books of the Medical Library."



II GENERAL POLICY OF LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION, cont'd.

[Note: This was before the new Medical Building was constructed. There is, therefore, now no necessity for Section 2 (a), and the provisions of Sections (c) and (d) have already been realized.]

3. It would appear, therefore, that in continuing its policy of co-ordination the Library is not going against the interests of the Medical Faculty, which has already expressed itself in favour of this policy. The fact that the Osler Collection will shortly be added to the resources of the Medical Library makes some uniformity of administration desirable, especially as a satisfactory plan for handling special collections has already been worked out in the University Library.

III THE PRESENT ANOMALOUS SITUATION

There is duplication, waste, and lack of a proper distribution of authority in the present situation for the following reasons:

1. The Medical Faculty has a Library Committee of its own and a representative ( the Medical Librarian or the Acting Librarian) on the general Library Committee, but the University Librarian is not a member of the Medical Library Committee, and the general Library Committee has apparently no jurisdiction over one of the libraries within the University.
2. The Purchasing Department of the University is duplicating for the Medical Library the work of the Order Department of the University Library.
3. Customs work is now done regularly by the University Library janitor; but it is also done for the Medical Library through the Purchasing Department of the University or by a special messenger from the Medical Library, whereas all this work could be done by the University Library janitor at the same time as the work for the University Library.
4. It is difficult to make librarians elsewhere understand that the Osler Collection which is coming to McGill is not a part of the



III THE PRESENT ANOMALOUS SITUATION, cont'd.

University Library, and this local peculiarity of administration is not to the advantage of the University.

- 5. The Assistant Medical Librarian at present finds it necessary to consult the Library of Congress Catalogue and the catalogues of the Order Department. This necessity, which takes her away from the Medical Library, would be minimized in the future.

IV RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. There should be one library consisting of all collections of books belonging to Faculties, Departments, or Schools within the University. The administration of this library should be in the hands of one library committee of which the Principal and University Librarian are ex-officio respectively Chairman and Secretary. All special committees or sub-committees should be appointed by the general committee, subject to the approval of the Principal. The Committee at present is constituted by Corporation and is made up as follows:

Principal: Chairman	1	Faculties:	
Librarian: Secretary	1	Arts	2
Governors	2	Law	1
Corporation	4	Medicine	1
Representative Fellow	1	Science	1
		Royal Victoria College	(1)

Total 14 (1) = 15

This distribution of representation may be altered by a recommendation made to Corporation by the Library Committee. The representative from the Royal Victoria College is not at present a regular member but sits with the Committee by invitation. The representative from Medicine at present is the former (acting) Honorary Librarian of the Medical Faculty.

- 2. As parts of this University Library there would be special collections of three kinds:



IV RECOMMENDATIONS, cont'd.

- (a) Faculty Libraries, e.g. Law and Medicine (with possibly Music and the R.V.C. in the future).
  - (b) Departmental libraries, e.g. Physics, Chemistry, Commerce, Social Service, Physical Education, and School for Graduate Nurses.
  - (c) Donated reference libraries on special subjects, e.g. Blackader Library of Architecture, Emma Shearer Wood Library of Ornithology, Blacker Library of Zoology, and Osler Collection.
3. In the case of Faculty libraries (Law and Medicine), where these are situated in separate buildings, a (honorary) librarian should be appointed by the Library Committee with duties and jurisdiction definitely fixed by that Committee. He should subsequently be a member ex-officio of the Committee. Where the needs of a Faculty warrant such action an additional representative should be added to the Committee.
4. The University Librarian will have general supervision of the administration of the University Library as defined in paragraph II - 1.
5. The University Librarian shall:
- (a) Order all necessary books and supplies for Faculty, Departmental, or School libraries. This shall be done upon recommendation by the honorary librarian or assistant librarian where such have been appointed.
  - (b) Engage or approve the engagement of all assistants, for whom there should be a uniform and graduated scale of salaries in the different special libraries.
  - (c) Approve the details of administration in the special libraries.



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Faculty of Medicine, McGill University,  
Dean's Office,

Montreal, June 8th, 1921

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal McGill University.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Report of the Library Committee which was presented at a meeting of the Faculty held on Monday evening the 6th inst.

As you will no doubt remember the report was adopted.

yours sincerely,



Assistant Dean.



REPORT OF THE MEDICAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

.....

With reference to the proposed incorporation with the General University Library.

The Chairman begs to report that after discussion at two special meetings the Committee came to the following conclusions,

That in view of the changes that will occur in the establishment and constitution of the present Medical Library upon the arrival and incorporation of the Osler Collection;

re

Namely, that the whole library be named the Osler Medical Library and be put under the control of the Osler Librarian, as already decided upon by the Committee empowered by Faculty.

and having regard to the alteration in the status and powers of the future Osler Librarian that would be occasioned by the proposed absorption of this Library with the General University Library.

Namely, that he would not technically have full charge of the collection, appoint assistants and purchase books, as laid down in Sir William's Memoranda.

therefore the Committee feel that this matter might well be left in abeyance until their own re-organization is established.

Further, the Honorary Librarian reports that after full consideration of the proposed changes he cannot feel that there would necessarily ensue therefrom either economy of working or benefit in administration.



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April  
Twenty-fifth  
1921.

Dr. J. W. Scane,  
Assistant Dean,  
Faculty of Medicine.

Dear Dr. Scane:-

I am attaching herewith a Memorandum on the relations between the Medical Library and the University Library, concerning which I spoke to you a few days ago.

These recommendations are made solely as suggestions towards greater economy and efficiency from the point of view of the University as a whole, and are not to be taken as reflecting in any way upon the present administration of the Medical Library. They are rather suggestions for a general policy for the future and to be modified as may be necessary after discussion.

I believe that McGill has now reached a stage in its development where the former somewhat independent administration of the Faculties must develop into a system of closer co-operation, and it is with a view to greater unification that I forward this Memorandum to you. Will you please refer it to the McGill Medical Library Committee and I should like to have the matter discussed at the next meeting of the Faculty.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.



LIBRARY OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL

GERHARD R. LOMER, M.A., Ph.D.,  
LIBRARIAN

April 21, 1921.

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal,  
McGill University.

MEDICAL LIBRARY

Dear Sir Arthur:

At your suggestion I am sending you the enclosed memorandum regarding the rather anomalous relation which exists between the Medical Library and the University Library.

Any recommendations which are contained therein are made solely as suggestions toward greater economy and efficiency from the point of view of the University as a whole, and are not to be taken as reflecting in any way upon the present administration of the Medical Library. They are rather suggestions of a general policy for the future and to be modified as may be necessary after discussion.

It may fairly be said that McGill has reached a stage in its development where the former somewhat independent administration of the Faculties is bound to develop into a system of closer co-operation, and it is with a view to greater unification that this memorandum is made.

Faithfully yours,

G. R. Lomer

Enc.

University Librarian.



MEMORANDUM ON THE RELATION BETWEEN  
THE MEDICAL LIBRARY AND THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

(From the University Librarian to the Principal)

April 21, 1921

I THE PRESENT SITUATION

1. The Medical Library is entirely separate from the University Library with regard to administration, appointments, funds, and purchases. The reasons for this separation seem to be:
  - (a) The earlier foundation of the Medical Library.
  - (b) Its location in a different building.
2. The Medical Faculty has a Library Committee of its own and a representative (the Medical Librarian or the acting Librarian) on the general Library Committee, but the University Librarian is not a member of the Medical Library Committee, and the general Library Committee has apparently no jurisdiction over one of the libraries within the University.
3. The Purchasing Department of the University is duplicating for the Medical Library the work of the Order Department of the University Library.

II RECOMMENDATIONS

1. There should be one library consisting of all collections of books belonging to Faculties, Departments, or Schools within the University. The administration of this library should be in the hands of one library committee of which the Principal and University Librarian are ex-officio respectively Chairman and Secretary. All special committees or sub-committees should be appointed by the general committee, subject to the approval of the Principal. The Committee at present is constituted by Corporation and is made up as follows:



Principal: Chairman	1	Faculties:	
Librarian: Secretary	1	Arts	2
Governors	2	Law	1
Corporation	4	Medicine	1
Representative Fellow	1	Science	1
Royal Victoria College (1)			

Total 14 (1) = 15

This distribution of representation may be altered by a recommendation made to Corporation by the Library Committee. The representative from the Royal Victoria College is not at present a regular member but sits with the Committee by invitation. The representative from Medicine at present is the former (acting) Honorary Librarian of the Medical Faculty.

2. As parts of this University Library there would be special collections of three kinds:
  - (a) Faculty libraries, e.g. Law and Medicine (with possibly Commerce and Music in the future).
  - (b) Departmental libraries, e.g. Physics and Chemistry (with possibly the R.V.C. and Social Service in the future).
  - (c) Donated reference libraries on special subjects, e.g. Blackader Library of Architecture, Emma Shearer Wood Library of Ornithology, and Blacker Library of Zoology.
3. In the case of Faculty libraries (Law and Medicine), where these are situated in separate buildings, a (honorary) librarian should be appointed by the Library Committee with duties and jurisdiction definitely fixed by that Committee. He should subsequently be a member ex-officio of the Committee. Where the needs of a Faculty warrant such action an additional representative should be added to the Committee.
4. The University Librarian will have general supervision of the administration of the University Library as defined in paragraph II - 1.



5. The University Librarian shall:

- (a) Order all necessary books and supplies for Faculty, Departmental, or School libraries. This shall be done upon recommendation by the honorary librarian or assistant librarians where such have been appointed.
- (b) Engage or approve the engagement of all assistants, for whom there should be a uniform and graduated scale of salaries in the different special libraries.
- (c) Approve the details of administration in the special libraries.

W. R. Loner.



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LIBRARY OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL

GERHARD R. LOMER, M.A., Ph.D.,  
LIBRARIAN

April 23, 1921.

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal,  
McGill University.

MEDICAL LIBRARY

Dear Sir Arthur:

In connection with the appointment of a Medical Librarian I enclose, without recommendation or comment, a copy of a letter which I recently received.

Faithfully yours,

G. R. Lomer

Enc.

University Librarian.



COPY

Room 73, New York Public Library,  
476 Fifth Avenue, New York City, N.Y.  
April 10, 1921.

Dr. G. R. Lomer,  
Librarian,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Sir:

I am taking the liberty of writing you regarding a possible position on the staff of your library.

I am a graduate of the University of Toronto, Orientals and Classics, and have taken the M.A. degree at the same University. At present I am attending the Library School of the New York Public Library, where I expect to get my certificate in the first week of June. I may mention also that I am twenty-six years of age, married, was born in Scotland, and for the last fourteen years have been living in Toronto, Canada. I am familiar with French, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, and Arabic. University library work is the special branch of the profession that I have always had in mind and for which I feel myself best qualified.

For references I may give you Mr. E. J. Reece, Principal of the Library School of the New York Public Library, Mr. R. W. Henderson and Mr. C. F. McCombs, Reference Department of the New York Public Library, 476 Fifth Avenue, where I have been working during the school year, also Dr. George H. Locke, Chief Librarian of the Toronto Public Library, who knows me personally. If any further information or references are required I shall be pleased to furnish them to you.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) A. F. Jamieson.