

Not valid - Tho

9th April, 1926.

MEMO REGARDING MACDONALD COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL.

INTRODUCTION:-

In reply to the memo regarding the College High School, the contribution of the College to the community sending children to this School is, from the financial standpoint, a large one; further, children have the larger equipment mentioned under the head of "Introduction". The gymnasium and swimming tank in the men's residence, however, are not at the disposal of the school. It has been impossible to continue this privilege owing to the fact that the children run over the building and do not behave themselves; the use of this building, therefore, to the boys is prohibited.

FINANCIAL ASPECT:-

Taking the figures as given in the memo as correct, the contribution of the college is as follows:-

Value of Buildings, (exclusive of grounds)		\$121,000.00
Interest on this at 5 1/2%	\$6,655.00 ^x	
Depreciation 1% on value		
buildings only	1,210.00 ^x	
Equipment	15,000.00	
Depreciation 3%	450.00 ^x	
	^x	
	Total \$8,315.00.	

These may be considered as fixed charges.

Employees' children attending school, 72.

(Resident on College property	46
" in Military Hospital	10
" in Ste. Annes	13
" in Ste. Anne de Bout de L'isle (Baie d'Urfe)	3

	72)

Of the 72 children of the professors and employees of the college, I should point out that in the memo submitted, it is stated that the college was out of pocket \$1,963.61 after charging the college the actual cost of educating these children. This statement, however, is not quite correct. The College is under no legal obligation to provide for the cost of this education. By the law of the Province the School Municipality in which they reside should pay this cost. Hence the cost of educating college children who reside in the Municipality of Bout de L'isle should be paid for by that Municipality; those who live in Ste. Annes by Ste. Annes Municipality; so that legally \$4,497.84 should be rightfully shared by these two Municipalities. However, as the situation with regard to the high taxation of Ste. Annes is known to the College authorities, this contribution to their budget has been made by the college.

But college no pay no taxes

It will be noted from the accompanying memo that 13 children reside in Ste. Annes and 3 in Baie d'Urfe; these should certainly be added to the respective School Municipalities.

Yes

Another point which should be taken into consideration, and which also can be considered as a contribution by Macdonald College to the welfare of the community, is the fact that it is not necessary for us to conduct a High School. The School for Teachers uses only Grades I to VII and the Kindergarten; hence

Grades VIII, IX, X and XI, which proportionally cost more than the other grades on account of higher qualifications of teachers who conduct the classes in these grades, could be dropped, with a saving of at least \$4,000.00 less the Provincial Grants which we obtain amounting to about \$1,000.

To recapitulate, then, the cost to the College for the High School is as follows:-

Interest on buildings, depreciation on buildings and equipment	\$8,315.00	—
Cost of educating 72 children at \$62.47	4,497.84	
Estimated cost of grades VIII, IX, X and XI	3,000.00	—

Total	\$15,812.84.	—

With reference to the situation at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Senneville and Bout de L'isle (Baie d'Urfe), the College has no direct interest. It would naturally prefer to see an amalgamation of these Municipalities for school purposes, but that is a matter which can only be settled by the rate payers and the Provincial Government. It is a situation beyond our control and must be settled by the ratepayers of the Municipalities concerned.

On p.9 the memorandum states:-

"There is needed first and foremost a competent staff, and a staff which, because it is fairly paid and given the task within its power, will be happy and content; in which the turnover from year to year will be reduced to the minimum rendered necessary by marriages of women teachers, sickness and other accidents.

"Secondly there is needed a Board of Trustees to represent the views of the parents to the Principal; to represent the views of the Principal and his staff to the parents.

"Without these two essentials a first rate school is almost impossible and at Macdonald High School neither requisite is met".

With regard to the staff the following statements should be made:-

Head Masters:-

After the resignation of the first Principal, who was a lady and resigned to be married, but is now deceased, male head masters have been appointed.

Mr. R. W. Edmison, B.A., was a successful Head Master, and resigned to become a dentist. He took his training at McGill, led his class nearly every year, and is now a successful and prosperous dentist in Montreal.

He was succeeded by Mr. A. D'Arcy Chapman, M.A., (Cantab.) F.R.G.S. After professional training in England, an assistantship at Rugby, and experience in a private school in Canada, Mr. Chapman was appointed Head Master. He remained for a few years and resigned to take postgraduate work at Harvard University. On obtaining his D. Ed. degree he returned to England, and was appointed Principal Lecturer in Education at the College of St. Mark, Chelsea, London.

The next Head Master was Mr. Elmer S. Giles, B.A., who was offered (too late for acceptance) the Principalship of Sherbrooke High School at an increase of \$800.00 over his Macdonald salary. The next year he was asked to name his own salary at Three Rivers. He did so, and then was offered a contract of five years with an annual increase of \$350.00, giving him at the end of that time \$3,600.00

The present Head Master, Mr. Harold S. Cook, B.A., was a student at Macdonald College in 1917-18. He was second in

order of merit in a large class, winning the Superintendent's Gold Medal. He also won the Robert Bickerdike Gold Medal in Mathematics, and the Sydney Fisher prize for nature study. He obtained honourable mention in practice teaching, history of education, theory and practice of education, arithmetic, French, English literature, composition, history, nature study and school law.

He obtained a position in St. Lambert High School with a salary of \$1350.00. At the end of the year, to the regret of St. Lambert, he was offered \$1800.00 to assume the Principalship of LaTuque Model School. He was so successful that the Board increased his salary at the end of the second year to \$2200.00 voluntarily. Mr. Cook then left to finish his B.A. degree at Queen's, which he succeeded in doing and obtained a Gold Medal. On returning to the Province of Quebec, on Dean Laird's recommendation to Dean Laing who was asked by the Ottawa graduates to find a Principal for Aylmer High School, he was appointed Principal of Aylmer High School. There he only remained one year as he obtained a tempting offer from the Baron Byng High School in Montreal. His acceptance of the Head Mastership of the Macdonald High School was regretted by Principal Montgomery Campbell and Dr. Silver, as he was only getting the same salary as he was receiving in Montreal where his skill would enable him to go automatically by annual increases from \$2500.00 to \$3200.00 without any change of his position.

Mr. Cook has had excellent experience such as we

desire, having been connected with both graded and ungraded schools, suburban and country high schools, and a city high school.

Other Teachers:-

Miss Janet Greig, our former French Specialist, is French Supervisor in British Columbia, and was offered the position of Supervisor of French in the Province of Quebec before the appointment of Miss Tanner.

Other teachers have been medalists in the School for Teachers, for example, Miss Mabel Price and Miss Hilda Fowlie.

Some teachers have left, and in at least two cases have been willing to return, viz., Miss Tilton who is returning next year after a year in the Commissioners School in Quebec; and Miss Fowlie who returned after a year in Saskatoon.

Miss Ramsay, teacher of Grade II, was Infant Mistress in the Demonstration School of Dundee Training College, Dundee, Scotland, and is a teacher of excellent training and experience.

Several of our teachers have been so successful that tempting offers have been made to many by more than one School Board.

Four teachers are leaving this year. Miss Taylor wishes to go West. She asked for a letter of recommendation to Superintendent McKee, Edmonton, Alberta, where she is hopeful of obtaining a position. Miss Fowlie is leaving to go to College and qualify as an Art Instructor. Miss Smith, French Specialist, who was first in the French Specialists' School, has had experience in the province and has proved an excellent teacher. She has

resigned because she refused to continue her heart-breaking work with the children; refused an increase of \$300 and resigned without any position in view in spite of approval of her services and increase in salary; her complaint is entirely due to the attitude of the children. Miss Kerr has resigned. Miss Kerr came to us with a degree from Edinburgh University and training at Cambridge and two years' experience in the Province of Quebec with recommendations from her last Principal in a school where the work was extremely onerous, viz., New Carlisle.

From the above facts it will be seen: (1) That there has always been an attempt to get an expert, well-trained and experienced staff; also a staff that is not in-bred, but with experience which will enable it to contribute something to the development of the School. (2) Very few have resigned for any other reason than marriage, or an offer of such a salary with which the College could not compete.

On page 10 the memorandum states:-

"The School has unfortunately a bad reputation among the teachers of the Province as a school where the children as a whole are undisciplined and do not care to learn".

This is true. Nearly all the teachers of the province have been trained at Macdonald College, and a large part of their practice has been obtained in our School. The attitude of the children is such that the students are well aware of the difficulties in Macdonald High School. They find it easier to teach in Montreal, where the children are well disciplined, and there is no possibility of parental or other interference.

In the Macdonald High School the difficulties in discipline and in attitude towards school work are found chiefly among the children who come from the better class homes of the community, that is to say, from the homes of the wealthier or professional classes. There is practically no difficulty with the children of the working classes, or with children from homes where the parents are not too indulgent with their offspring.

All teachers in the High School, and in the College proper, can give numerous instances of the difficulty in discipline.

Girls from grades VII and VIII who come to the Main Building for Household Science classes, scribble on walls of cloak rooms, were so rude and inattentive that the teacher refused to go on teaching them and the class was suspended. Our teachers constantly complain of the attitude of the children toward their work; as already cited Miss Smith, the French Specialist, is leaving because of this one fact.

Dean Laird and myself have repeatedly spoken to the children, but without avail. They scribble over the walls of the buildings, inside and out, trespass, break into the barns, steal from the orchards, destroy college property, misbehave generally, and then the parents wonder why we are so hard on the children.

This lack of discipline is equally true of other organizations outside of the school. The Boy Scouts have been given privileges in the College, such as the Library, shooting range, rifles, place for meeting, etc., but they abused these privileges to such an extent they had to be turned out. They next

went to St. George's Church hall, and behaved so badly there that this privilege was withdrawn. Numerous other instances could be cited in connection with the lack of discipline of children in the School Municipalities. In our opinion (and we voice also the opinion of the teachers of the School) this is generally due to the attitude of the parents and the poor support they give to any disciplinary measures that may be imposed.

It is stated on p.10 that amongst the School Trustees are a number of professional men, presidents of large corporations, etc. I do not know if this is an argument why they should be asked to select the teachers in the School, but it seems rather that those who are actually in touch with the teaching profession throughout the province, and in a School established for the purpose of training teachers, would not only have the greater opportunity of selecting good teachers but also a greater opportunity of forming a judgment as to the ability of those teachers.

With regard to the appointment of the staff, it should be noted that in no case is a practice school, attached to a Normal School, placed in such a position that the training authorities do not have the appointment of the practice school teachers. For obvious reasons this is a necessity.

In staffing a school there should be no conflict of ideals between the training authorities and the parents. The probability is that the teachers in practice schools are generally more carefully selected than those in any other schools.

The agreement with the School Trustees of Ste. Annes is submitted, and it will be noted from this that an opportunity is afforded at any time for those Trustees to meet the College authorities. They have been informed of this many times, and the College authorities have left the onus on them to ask for meetings as there is nothing particular which we wish to discuss with them.

We do not agree with the suggestion that the one factor which has contributed to the lack of interest on the part of parents in the School is:-

"That it has been said to them probably times and times again that the School does not exist as a vehicle for education of their children, but as a vehicle by which the student teachers of the College may learn how to teach".

It is quite true that the only reason why the College finances the School to the extent it does is because it is necessary to have a practice school for the School for Teachers. If it were not for this fact naturally the College would not desire to maintain a school at such expense. This idea may have been told the Trustees, but to make it a reason for the parents' lack of interest is not correct. For the last few years an endeavour has been made on the part of the College authorities to run a Parents-Teachers Association, and members of the staff have given considerable time and effort to making this successful. It was received in an apathetic manner by the parents, and this year has been dropped.

MACDONALD HIGH SCHOOL.

A memorandum showing the standing of this school as compared with other High Schools in the Province of which there is a total of 44. (exclusive of Montreal and Quebec City High Schools, which do not participate in Grants from Superior Education Fund).

Year ending June.	Rank of School.	*Average Percentages	Highest percent obtained by any school.	Grant made from Superior Education Fund to M.H.S.	Any other Sch.
1925	4	88	91	\$ 875.00	880.00
1924	3	86	89	1100.00	1100.00
1923	4	87	90	1100.00	1100.00
1922	6	83	88	1050.00	1100.00
1921	12	81	90	540.00	600.00

Note,-

The pupils who attend this school receive instruction by members of the College staff in manual training (boys), sewing, cookery and physical training (girls), in addition to the prescribed syllabus.

This is supplementary to the course of study and does not receive marks from the Inspector, and therefore does not add to the standing of the school in the general percentage as reported by the Inspector of Superior Schools.

*The average percentages above mentioned are based upon (1) the report of the Inspector of Superior Schools as to sufficiency and efficiency of staff, quality of teaching throughout whole school, type of buildings etc., (2) the average marks obtained by pupils of High School grades in June examinations.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between MACDONALD COLLEGE

Party of the first part

and the TRUSTEES OF THE DISSENTIENT SCHOOL
of the Municipality of Ste Anne de Bellevue,

Party of the second part.

This agreement made this fifteenth day of
November 1921, witnesseth;

That the party of the first part agrees to carry on an elementary school consisting of grades one to seven inclusive, all in accordance with the regulations of the Department of Public Instruction of the Province of Quebec and to furnish tuition to all pupils eligible for those grades certified by an authorized representative of the party of the second part as entitled to such tuition at the expense of the Dissentient taxpayers of the municipality of Ste Anne de Bellevue.

And further agrees to provide suitable annual medical inspection of said pupils, along the lines developed during the spring of the year 1921, under the supervision of the College physician.

And further accepts the principal of an advisory board upon which the party of the second part shall be represented; the constitution of such board to be as may be hereafter arranged and the function of such board being to consult and advise on matters relating to the operation of the school and to provide a link between the Trustees and the School Management.

In consideration whereof, the party of the second part agrees and engages to pay to the party of the first part the sum of fifty dollars per annum for each pupil certified by an authorized representative of the party of the second part as entitled to tuition at the expense of the Dissentient taxpayers of the Municipality of Ste Anne de Bellevue, the total amount being figured on the maximum number of pupils registered and certified in any calendar month of the school year; fifty per cent of such total amount to become due and payable on the first day of January and the balance on the first day of July of each year.

This agreement shall be deemed to be in effect from the commencement of the school year July first, 1921.

It shall be subject to cancellation at the end of any school year, by written notice served by either party upon the other not later than the last day of December of such school year.

Signed on behalf of the subscribing parties.

(signed)F..C..Harrison.....
On behalf of Macdonald College,
party of the first part.

Witness;

(signed) T. F. Ward.

John T. Farmer.
On behalf of the Trustees of the
Dissentient School, Ste. Anne de
Bellevue, Province of Quebec.

Witness;

(signed) G. Victor Motherwell.

9 Trustees
 3 Secretaries
 3 Harrison Laird Ward
 2 Principal, Bursar
 1 ~~Protost~~ Sec. Council Public Instruction

17 Copies
 1 Original

Dr. F.C. Harrison,
 Principal, Macdonald College,
 Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Dear Dr. Harrison:-

At the meeting held at Macdonald College on May 4th between ourselves and the representatives of the different municipalities, the following understanding was arrived at:-

The School Trustees of Senneville, Ste. Anne de Bellevue and Ste. Anne de Bout de l'île constitute a consultative committee of the Macdonald College High School. The committee will meet at such intervals as may seem desirable, generally once a month, ~~at the call of yourself or of the Dean of the School for Teachers,~~ ^{the Principal of the College} or in his absence the Dean of the School for Teachers acting as convenor and chairman. The committee will, through these meetings, be kept fully informed of the operations of the High School, of its finances and of the ^{proposals} intentions regarding appointment, ^{promotion} or retirement of ~~the~~ teachers. The trustees of any district will be informed of ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~be kept advised regarding any~~ questions of discipline arising in connection with their district, ~~where~~ ^{whenever} it appears that their intervention with parents would be desirable.

It is not the intention to lay down any hard and fast rules regarding the relation of this committee to the governing authorities of Macdonald College or to specify any particular method of co-operation, the object of all parties being to ensure, so far as possible, the harmonious conduct of the school ~~in its character of an institution~~ ^{as} for the education of the children of the neighbourhood ~~as~~ apart from its use in connection with the School for Teachers. In view of the fact that it is practically impossible to separate these two aspects of the work, no fixed limit is set to the activities of the committee. It is, however, to be understood that in the last resort the control of the High School (except in so far as exercised under the law of the Province by the Council of Public Instruction) is vested in the authorities of Macdonald College, subject to the Governors of McGill University.

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 and afforded an opportunity to advise the College staff.

In addition to the foregoing arrangements which will be permanent, it is understood that a sub-committee will be formed to consist of yourself, Dean Laird, Mr. Ward and a representative from each municipality. This sub-committee will be charged with the duty of examining the budget of the High School and endeavouring to reach a fair distribution of cost between the college and the municipalities with a view to taking some action to raise ~~some~~ additional funds from the municipalities. ~~I should be glad to be advised when this committee reaches a decision, before any action is taken.~~

Yours faithfully,

Principal

I hope that this committee will meet at once and I shall be glad to receive their recommendation

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.

8th July, 1926.

- 2 -

MEMO REGARDING THE MACDONALD COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL AND ARRANGEMENTS
WITH THE THREE SCHOOL MUNICIPALITIES.

We have had two meetings with one member of each Board of School Trustees of Senneville, Ste. Annes and Ste. Anne de Bout de l'Isle (Baie d'Urfe). As a result of these meetings we have accomplished the following:-

1. Obtained for this year an increase of \$1500 towards the expenses of the school.
2. Decided that it would not be advisable to get an extra teacher as the Municipalities concerned could not pledge themselves to raise their proportion of the extra money.
3. Arranged to change the basis of the contributions to the College. At present we are receiving \$50.00 per head for each child at the school; in the case of Ste. Annes for children only in Grades I to VIII. The Trustees have agreed to change this and to turn over to the college their school assessment on the understanding that we will take all Protestant children coming from these municipalities. The suggested rates were as follows:-

Ste. Annes	10	mils
Senneville	7	"
Baie d'Urfe	7	"

on the assessed value of the property for school purposes. This

should bring us in considerably more than we are receiving on the per capita basis. The amount, however, cannot be definitely stated as their rolls have not yet been homologated.

4. The only difficulty likely to materialise is the effort on the part of a number of ratepayers in the municipality of Senneville to separate and form two municipalities. The line of division is just east of the property owned by Mr. Marler and Dr. Todd. I have written in this connection to Dr. Parmelee and asked him to bear this in mind when the private Bill is brought into the Legislature, and he is prepared to oppose this division of the School Municipality of Senneville.

text.

May
Second
1922.

John Ritchie, Esq.,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue,
Que.

Dear Sir:-

I am directed by the Principal to
acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 2nd.

The matter referred to will be
brought up at the next meeting of the Macdonald
College Committee and you will be advised as to
when your deputation may appear before the Finance
Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Principal's Secretary.

Ste. Anne de Bellevue,
May 2nd. 1922.

General Sir Arthur Currie,
Principal, McGill University.,
Sherbrooke Street, W,
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Sir:-

You reply of the 23rd. March, to the joint letter of Mr. J. K. McNutt and myself, has been duly received and we regret to learn that the Finance Committee of McGill cannot offer any promise of relief to the Protestant Tax payers of Ste. Anne de Bellevue. We are not surprised, however, in view of your further remarks as the case has evidently been considered altogether from a Macdonald College point of view and without any representative from Ste. Annes being heard and we believe your Finance Committee will consider it only fair to give us an opportunity of being heard by them before any arrangement is made for the next year.

There are also certain statements in your letter to which we must take exception as they are not in accord with actual conditions.

1st. That the larger salaries you are now paying teachers and the increasing cost of materials and supplies make necessary the high rate you are now asking; but these are considerably out of proportion to the increase asked from Ste. Annes, being over double the amount assessed in 1919-1920.

2nd. That the number of pupils from Ste. Annes during the years mentioned is incorrect; the proper figures being:

1919-1920	Only	112	not	232
1920-1921	"	134	"	269
1921-1922	"	100	in grades	1-7

and those outside of grades 1-7 are paying \$50.00 per pupil.

3rd. That the cost of education of children on campus should not be borne by Ste. Annes as the College property, with the exception of the East side of Maple Avenue, is not in the town. If this property, now owned by Macdonald College and occupied by members of the staff, were part of the school district of Ste. Anne our trustees would receive approximately \$1500.00 additional taxes. Only ten (10) children from these homes attend school, which fact should be taken into consideration.

4th. That the College pays \$10.00 per head for each Ste. Annes child over and above the \$50.00 paid by the municipality.

This is only a minor point but the principal, Dr. Harrison, has stated that the cost is, in round figures, \$57.00 per head without any allowance for depreciation, etc, which would indicate that the college stands only \$7.00 per head. Moreover, the figures given in your letter as to total cost and total number of pupils show that the average is \$51.55 and not \$57.00 as stated.

5th. That suggestions made by Ste. Annes School Trustees have always resulted in heavy expense to college. We would be glad to have specific information as we were not aware that this was the case.

6th. We did not intend to state that Ste. Annes pays 90% of the total cost of operation; but that we do pay \$50.00 per pupil on a stated cost to college of \$57.00, which is over 90%.

7th. That the children from Ste. Annes are not a necessity and that we could not run a school of our own as cheaply as we are now paying the college to educate our children. In view of the last paragraph, that it is your earnest desire that there should always be maintained between the residents of Ste. Annes and Macdonald College the most harmonious and sympathetic feeling, we do not believe you would care to press these points as there can be no question that both parties benefit from the associations and connections already established and the more co-operation on both sides the greater the benefit to all. We do appreciate the Macdonald High School, but, as long as your information is obtained from one source only, we feel that we are quite justified in asking for another interview and, as previously stated, even the opportunity of going before your Finance Committee to state our case and have it considered both from the college viewpoint and also from that of the Protestant tax payers of Ste. Annes.

Trusting you will give this matter your careful consideration, we are,

Yours very truly,

John Ritchie

Ste. Anne de Bellevue,
May 2nd. 1922.

General Sir Arthur Currie,
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Sherbrooke Street, W,
Montreal, P.Q.

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There are also certain statements in your letter to which we must take exception as they are not in accord with actual conditions.

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4th. That the College pays \$10.00 per head for each Ste. Annes child over and above the \$50.00 paid by the municipality.

This is only a minor point but the principal, Dr. Harrison, has stated that the cost is, in round figures, \$57.00 per head without any allowance for depreciation, etc, which would indicate that the college stands only \$7.00 per head. Moreover, the figures given in your letter as to total cost and total number of pupils show that the average is \$51.55 and not \$57.00 as stated.

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Trusting you will give this matter your careful consideration, we are,

Yours very truly,

MACDONALD COLLEGE

High School

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:

STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:

MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

12th April, 1926.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I enclose statement regarding Macdonald College High School that you left with me, and a reply. The financial statement I have obtained from the Bursar; the remainder of the reply is compiled by Laird and myself; both of us have read it, and both subscribe to it.

A copy of the Memorandum of Agreement between Macdonald College and the Trustees of Ste. Annes is appended, together with a memorandum showing the standing of the School as compared with other High Schools in the Province.

Faithfully yours,

J. Currie

Principal.

L.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:

STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:

MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

October 14, 1926.

Sir Arthur Currie,
Principal, McGill University,
Montreal, Que.

Dear Sir Arthur:

In accordance with our conversation yesterday I have called a meeting of the Consultative Committee of Macdonald High School as in the attached notice. You will observe that I have put down on the agenda the appointment of a Secretary, and the reading of the minutes. I have done so because there has been no secretary and there have been no minutes and this condition of affairs seems to me wrong particularly because there have been different interpretations of what has been decided upon.

I would suggest that Mr. Ward, one of our College representatives, be asked to act as secretary and keep faithful record of the business done and the decisions made.

I have called the meeting for Room 28 as the Principal's office is now Dean Barton's office and access to it is not easily obtained. Room 28 is opposite my own office and is the room used as a faculty room.

Yours faithfully,

Prichard Land
Dean.

B.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

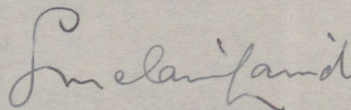
October 14, 1926.

Consultative Committee

Macdonald High School

A meeting of the above Committee consisting of the Trustees of the three School Boards and College representatives will be held in Room 28, Main Building, Macdonald College, on Wednesday evening, October 20th, at 8 p.m. Sir Arthur Currie will be present and will preside at the meeting.

- Business:
1. Appointment of secretary.
 2. Minutes of last meeting.
 3. Notice of cancellation of agreements with the school boards.
 4. Financial arrangements.



Dean, School for Teachers.

Sir Arthur Currie
T. F. Ward, Esq.
Dean S. Laird
J. K. McNutt, Esq.
Dr. A. S. Lamb
J. T. Farmer, Esq.
H. J. T. Falk, Esq.
F. Walkinshaw, Esq.
H. W. Hartnell, Esq.
W. S. Fallis, Esq.
C. B. Powter, Esq.
Wm. G. Stuart, Esq.

This will result in a
saving of $\frac{2}{3}$ of our loss
leaving "College children" out
of account.

Change in Mill Rate

	1925	1926 (new)
1925 St Annes	12	11
Senneville	5	$5\frac{1}{2}$
St Annes de Bout d'elle (Baie d'Urpe)	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$

March
Twenty-third
1922.

John Ritchie, Esq.,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.

Dear Sir:-

The Finance Committee of the Board of Governors of McGill University, of which Macdonald College forms a part, have given earnest consideration to your letter of January 1st, in which you lodge a complaint on behalf of the Protestant Rate Payers of Ste. Anne de Bellevue, as to the amount of school taxes which you were called upon to pay.

I am to inform you that the Board cannot offer any promise of relief, though they realize that these taxes are high. There has been a much increased cost of operation of the school due to the larger salaries it has been necessary to pay teachers and due to the increasing cost of materials and supplies. There has also been considerable increase in the number of children. From the municipality of Ste Anne's in 1919-20 there were 232; 1920-21 269; 1921-22 284.

You suggest that the old agreement which was entered into by Ste. Anne's at the time the College was formed should not be so drastically changed. You must realize that conditions have very, very greatly changed and that the agreement was a yearly one. Before the College was established at Ste. Anne's there were only thirteen children in school and one elementary teacher. We cannot admit that the proportion of cost which Macdonald College is bearing is entirely too low in view of the value of the School for teachers' training purposes. The College pays about \$10.00 a head for each Ste. Anne's child over and above what the municipality pays. It bears the whole cost of the education of the children who live on the College campus. It maintains academy

grades and a kindergarten. It gives all children opportunities in manual training, sewing and cooking. It furnishes acres of playing fields; gives physical instruction and none of these are included in the cost of the school. The children from Ste. Anne's are not a positive necessity for the success of the school, because a sufficient number could be obtained elsewhere. We have endeavoured to carry out all suggestions made by the School Trustees and these suggestions have always resulted in heavy expense to the College.

You say the tax payers of Ste. Anne's are expected to bear 90% of the cost of operation. As a matter of fact it is far from 90%, being only 36%. The actual cost of the school last year was \$13,867. of which the tax payers of Ste. Anne's were asked to contribute \$5,000.

The difficulty which arises from the number of children who come from homes owned by Roman Catholics is unfortunate, but is entirely beyond our control. Furthermore, there are a number of children of employees of the College who live in Ste. Anne's. These we educate without cost to Ste. Anne's rate payers.

We are doing everything possible to keep the cost of operation of the school low, but we support an academy when grades 1-7 would be sufficient for teaching purposes. We support a kindergarten, and for this we ask no contribution from the rate payers of Ste. Anne's.

It seems to me that the taxes which you are called upon to pay, high as they are, mean a less amount than you would be called upon to contribute for school purposes were you to build, staff, equip and

John Ritchie, Esq.

- 3 -

operate a school of your own. In our charges against our school we have made no allowance for any depreciation or interest charges.

It is our most earnest desire that there should always be maintained between the residents of Ste. Anne's and Macdonald College the most harmonious and sympathetic feeling.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

See Harrison letter to me
dated Jan 11 1926

THE MACDONALD COLLEGE SCHOOL

A statement prepared for the School Tax-payers and the parents of children attending Macdonald College School from the Dissident School Districts of Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Ste Anne de Bout de L'Island Senneville.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Macdonald College School is the only school in the neighbourhood affording opportunities for primary or High-school education to Protestant children.

It stands on ground belonging to the College. In close proximity to it are the buildings of the College, which put at the disposal of the school a gymnasium and a swimming tank and a Household Science Department for the girls in the higher grades and a manual training Department for the boys, for whom at times there has also been gymnasium and swimming. These activities for boys have had to be discontinued on account of there being now no Junior Master to whom the responsibility for their supervision could be entrusted.

*Medical
reflections*

*Senior classes
afternoon
awake*

Surrounding the school is ample space for unsupervised play and here the girls have their baseball diamond. The boys playing baseball on their own section of the ground and using the College campus for football.

Thus it will be realized that the school has physical equipment at its disposal, which cannot be equalled by any provincial

town school and greater use of which might be made if the staff of the school was enlarged to make supervision of boys' games possible.

THE FINANCIAL ASPECT OF THE SITUATION

A. The relation of Macdonald College to the School:

Exclusion of the physical equipment above mentioned which is part of the College equipment as distinct from the school equipment. The cost of building the school proper was \$ ~~10,000~~⁰⁰

Since the institution of the school it has been the rule that the children of Professors and other employees of the college should receive free education at the school.

The total cost of operating the school during the last five years has been as follows:-

<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
\$14,069.07	\$17,803.77	\$16,247.57	\$18,141.21	\$18,054.91

The net cost to the College, i.e. the cost arrived at by deducting the total of the amounts received from the three Dissident School Districts, the amounts paid by parents sending children from other places nearby, and the amounts received from the Department of Public Instruction during the five year period 1921-1925 has averaged \$6,185.41 and was in 1925 \$6,461.45.

In 1925 there were in attendance at the school in all grades 289 children and it has been stated above that the total cost of operation was \$18,054.91 and ~~the net cost to the College~~ \$6,461.45 from which it will be seen that the average cost per child was \$62.47.

Of the 289 children attending the school 72 were children

of Professors or employees of the College.

Thus the cost of their education may be taken as having been \$4,497.84 leaving a balance of \$1,963.61 which amount had to be found by the College Authorities for the purpose of educating the children of the residents of the three school districts in question.

It may be contended that this amount is a justifiable charge upon the College in as much as the school primary grades from one to seven offer training facilities for the students in training in the School for Teachers of the College. Be that as it may, the fact remains that the College was out of pocket to the extent of \$1963.61 after charging to them the actual cost of educating the children of Professors and other employees.

On what basis do the school districts pay the College for the tuition of their children?

The three districts mentioned pay at the rate of \$50.00 per pupil per year. Thus it will be seen at a glance that they are not paying for the cost of educating the children, and it must never be forgotten that in the operating costs above mentioned no amount has been included for interest charges on capital account, sinking fund or depreciation in connection with building charges which, on a capital expenditure of \$ _____ would probably result in an additional \$ _____ on operating charges.

If the pupils, other than children of Professors and other College employees were paid for at cost, that is at the rate which for the purpose of this report has been charged to the College in reduction of the deficit on the annual operation, the income to the

*only in
Grade
1-11*

*children
regards
9-10-11
\$50.00
per
pupil*

College would be increased by \$2705.00 (217 X (\$62.47 - \$50.00) a sum which would enable the College to add substantially to the school staff and overcome difficulties, which will later be enumerated.

Why then, it will be asked, does the College not insist on the non-college children being paid for at the rate of \$62.47 (i.e. cost in 1925).

The situation in Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

It must now be remembered that the College cannot make one rate for one Dissident school district and another for another for identically similar services.

But the situation in the three districts are by no means similar. For the sake of those tax-payers or parents, who are not familiar with school-law it is here stated that the revenue of any district for school purposes comes from a tax fixed by the school Boards or Trustees at a certain number of mills on the dollar of assessed value. The assessment value usually being taken as the value fixed by the assessors for ordinary municipal taxes.

All the existing property is then divided as between property owned by Roman Catholics and property owned by non-Roman Catholics.

The school tax for a Protestant School system has then to be fixed at a rate, which, levied against Protestant owned property, will supply enough money to meet the cost of operation. If there were 100 Protestant families in Ste. Anne de Bellevue, 99 of whom lived in houses owned by Roman Catholics, and there was only one Protestant family owning property in Ste. Anne de Bellevue, then that one Protestant property owner would have to bear the entire cost of providing

education for all the children of the 100 Protestant families.

Actually the situation in Ste. Anne de Bellevue in 1925 is not as extreme as that, but it is sufficiently ridiculous to necessitate and to justify serious consideration as to how it can be remedied.

The following table shows over the five year period,- (1) The assessment value and (2) The number of pupils of the Ste. Anne de Bellevue district from which it will be seen that the assessment value of Protestant property has actually decreased from \$391,000 in 1921 to \$346,388 in 1925, i.e. \$44,712 or 11.4%.

Ste. Anne de Bellevue District

	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
Assessment value of Protestant property	391,100	396,100	379,100	390,250	346,388
No. of pupils	122	98	99	103	99

The truth is that the situation is becoming worse and will become worse because the heavy school taxes are discouraging Protestants from buying their own property in the Town of Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Now it will be understood why the College does not wish to increase the rate charged per pupil from \$50.00 to \$62.47 which would merely add to the already intolerable burdens of the Ste. Annes Protestant property owners.

The position of the parent of school children who is also a taxpayer in Ste. Annes.

Not only does the parent taxpayer have to pay heavily in taxes, but even then his taxes (he pays 12 mills as against 10 mills in the central School Board of Montreal for instance) do not do more than supply enough money to the Ste. Annes Trustees to pay the College \$50.00

per pupil for pupils in the primary grades one to seven. If a Ste. Anne's Protestant parent property owner (or one renting Catholic owned property) wants to send a child to kindergarten or to High School, i.e. grades 8 to 11 he must pay the \$50.00 per year direct to the College in addition to his taxes. Furthermore in an effort to make both ends meet his Trustees require him to pay \$15.00 per year for each child attending the primary grades,- a charge which is only enforced in the case of better-off parents who are able to meet it.

The Situation in the other two districts - Senneville and Ste. Anne de Bout de l'isle (Baie d'Urfe.)

The very condition which works such a hardship on Ste. Annes, creates a situation in these two districts which results in the Protestant property owner having to pay an absurdly low tax rate on a valuation rate which is from 50 to 75% of the selling value of his property as against 90% to 100% in Ste. Annes.

Why the low rate? Because the amount of Protestant owned property in these two districts is large in proportion to the number of Protestant children.

It should be pointed out that the proximity of Ste. Annes to the Railroad Station results in families, who live all the year round in the Ste. Annes district living in the town of Ste. Annes, whereas the Protestant property owners in the Senneville and Ste. Annes de Bout de L'Isle district are for the most part summer residents, whose children go to schools in Montreal.

A glance at the following table shows the situation in the three districts:-

	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
<u>STE. ANNES</u>					
Property valuation	391,100	396,100	379,100	390,250	346,388
Children	122	98	99	103	99
<u>SENNEVILLE</u>					
Property valuation	374,150	461,100	466,300	491,600	510,700
Children	24	25	32	28	33
<u>STE. ANNES de BOUT de L'ISLE (BAIE d'URFE)</u>					
Property valuation	812,492	820,156	654,750	654,750	
Children	39	35	46	42	35

FIGURES WHICH ACCOUNT FOR THE TAX RATE BEING IN MILLS

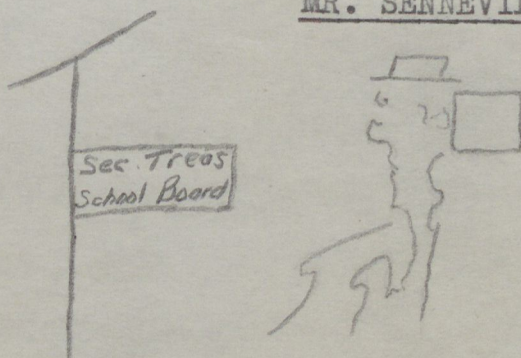
	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
<u>STE. ANNES</u>	* 7½	14	12½	11½	12
<u>SENNEVILLE</u>	3	5	5	5	5
<u>STE. A. de B de L'I</u>	3	4	4	4½	4½

Even these comparatively few figures may be confusing to some, who may really want to understand this situation and to place before the reader in graphic and hence dramatic form there follows a statement of a hypothetical or imaginary case of two Protestant property owning parents living across the road from each other, one in Senneville and the other in Ste. Anne de Bellevue. Assuming that they both live in houses which cost the same amount to build and have an equal sale value - \$10,000 - and that each family has four children aged 5, 8, 11 and 14.

Mr. Senneville's house will probably be assessed at about \$6,000,00 on which he will pay a 5 mill rate and his taxes amounting to \$30,00 per year will permit him to send all his four children to school, one in the Kindergarten, two in the primary grades and one in the High School. Moreover, they can drive free to and fro from school in the School Bus. Mr. Ste. Anne de Bellevue, however, will have his property assessed at about \$9,000,00 on which he will pay a 12 mill rate amounting in all to \$108,00 per annum to which must be added a special fee for his Kindergarten child of \$50,00 and another \$50.00 for the High School child and \$25.00 per year for the two children in the primary grades making in all \$233,00 for his four children's education, and they will have to walk to and fro from school in all weather.

Graphically presented Mr. Senneville and Mr. Ste. Anne de Bellevue in this case would look like this if they carried their year's school taxes in coppers on their backs to the Secretary Treasurers of their Boards. We have put Mr. Senneville in front because his burden is so light he does not find it very difficult to carry had we introduced

MR. SENNEVILLE



MR. STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE



Mr. Ste. Anne de Bout de L'Isle into the picture he with his $4\frac{1}{2}$ mill rate (reduced in 1926 to 4 mills) would have been in advance of Mr. Senneville.

So much for the Financial aspect of the situation for the present -- what of the educational aspects?

The Educational Aspect.

Sir Arthur Currie. Principal of McGill University, under whose jurisdiction the College and School comes, has said that the school ought to be the best school in the Province.

Certainly a school in which the future teachers of the Protestant children of this Province are being taught how to teach ought to be the best school in the Province. But to make a school the best school there is needed something more than good physical equipment.

There is needed, first and foremost, a competent and adequate staff and a staff which, because it is fairly paid and given a task within its power will be happy and content and in which the turnover from year to year will be reduced to the minimum rendered necessary by marriages of women teachers, sickness^{ness} and other accidents.

Secondly, there is needed a Board of Trustees to represent the views of the parents to the Principal and to represent the views of the Principal and his staff to the parents.

Without these two essentials a first rate school is almost an impossibility and at the Macdonald School neither requisite is met.

To the everlasting credit of some of its women teachers, it must be stated that they have remained faithful to the school and have lived up to the highest ethical standards of their profession in doing so, when the temptations to leave have been many and strong. In saying this it must not be taken as a reflection on others, who have done excellent work and since left for more hopeful and less trying fields of service.

The school has, unfortunately, a bad reputation amongst the teachers of the Province as a school, where the children as a whole are undisciplined and not eager to learn. It is no use hiding this fact - the reputation exists and the school authorities can cite many instances to account for its existing.

Let us assume that the discipline is not what it should be and that the children as a whole are not as eager to learn as they should be, as they are in other less favoured small towns in the Province. What is the cause?

No ONE circumstance; but there is one factor which, without question in the minds of the parents has contributed to a lack of interest on their part in the school, namely - that it has been said to them probably times and times again that the school does not exist as a vehicle for education of their children, but as a vehicle by which the student teachers of the College may learn how to teach.

Further than that, nine School Trustees - three in each of the three districts in which number there are at the present time two Presidents of large corporations, four Professional men, and these other business men are not only not allowed to have any say in regard to any question in connection with the school, but also are never asked for their advice on any question.

Their responsibility is, as they have been told, to supply the funds and nothing more. Under these circumstances, what else might be expected but apathy or even direct antagonism.

What is needed

First, more money for the school. Second, a responsible Board of Trustees representing the Taxpayers forming together with representatives of the School for Teachers a Board of Management for the school, which shall report to and be responsible to the Principal and Board of Governors of McGill University.

How to accomplish this.

It has already been shown that the Ste. Anne de Bellevue Taxpayers cannot be asked to do more than they are doing now. It is unsound in principle that the financial arrangements between the three districts should be different.

There is only one sound way of accomplishing an even distribution of the burden, whilst at the same time enabling the school to receive more money from the Protestant property owners in the three districts - namely an amalgamation of the three Dissident School Districts into one district under one Board with one assessment valuation and one tax rate.

What would this mean in dollars and cents to the two low taxed districts?

Assuming that the expenditure on the school ought to be increased 20% to give the desired efficiency by adding additional teachers and enabling the school to pay higher salaries giving it a budget of say \$21,500 of which amount a minimum of \$6500 may be expected to be contributed by the College either on account of the education of Professors and employees' children or from grants from the Department of Public Instruction.

Then there is left \$15,000 to be provided by the three districts then united. Even on the basis of the existing valuations

350
510
670

1520

for assessment purposes, that is to say, without attempting to assess all Protestant property owners on the same basis within the three districts a rate of ? mills on the total assessment for the current year 1926, which amounts to \$ up as follows -

Senneville \$, Ste. Anne de Bellevule \$
Ste. Anne de Bout de L'Isle \$ would provide the \$15,000 required.

What is the attitude of the present Trustees?

By a vote of 8 to 1 the nine Trustees representing the three districts on passed the following resolution :-

And this statement is prepared in advance taking formal steps to have a vote taken on the question amalgamation.

What should be the Attitude of a Trustee?

Some people have expressed the opinion that the duties of the Trustees of a school district are to keep taxes down at all costs. The eight Trustees who voted for amalgamation, and they included all the three Senneville Trustees and two of the Ste. Anne de Bout de L'Isle Trustees, felt differently; they felt that their first trust was to the cause of education of the children in their districts.

If that is so, then no Trustee in either one of the three districts ought to vote against amalgamation, knowing that the only permanent and equitable method of making it possible to provide more money for the Macdonald School from the Protestant property owners of the district is by amalgamation and equalization of the distribution of the burden.

What do the large summer-resident tax payers have to say about amalgamation in Senneville and Baie d'Urfe?

H. M. Marler, W.F. Angus, C. F. Martin, etc. etc. have written as follows to Sir Arthur Currie. (Quote from their letters)

What do the small tax payers all the year round residents in Senneville have to say?

C. B. Porter, R. R. Macaulay,

What is the opinion of a man who owns property and has no children in whose education he is interested?

"The development of my property is in my opinion largely dependent upon the education facilities of the district, I shall get back all the extra taxes and shall even be asked to pay many times over the appreciated value of my land if Macdonald College School is always to be a first-class School".

What is the alternative?

There is no alternative - it is inconceivable that affairs should be allowed to get to such a state as to render it necessary for the Government to step in and force an amalgamation or worse still, force us into the Central School District.

The alternative is to leave "bad" enough alone, which would mean that Ste. Annes and its vicinity will sooner or later die an

unnatural and deserved death as a residential suburb for English
Protestant families.

Macdonald High School.

Memorandum of Valuation rolls, taxation and attendance etc. etc.,
of School Municipalities.

School municipality of Ste. Anne de Bout de l'Ile. (Baie d'Urfe)

<u>Year ending 30th. June</u>	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Total valuation roll	812,492.	820,156.	654,759.	654,750.	1,325,000.	This municipality pays for pupils in all grades 1 - 11 inclusive, and also pays \$300. per annum for transport of children to and from school.
Rate for school tax	3 mills	4 mills	4 mills	4½ mills	4½ mills	
Number of pupils attending school	39	35	46	42	35	
Amount paid Macdonald College	1,365.	1,700.	2,250.	2,050.	1,725.	

School municipality of Senneville.

Total valuation roll	374,150.	461,100.	466,300.	491,600.	510,700.	This municipality pays for pupils in all grades 1 - 11 inclusive. Also pays \$900. for transport of children to and from school.
Rate for school tax	3 mills	5 mills	5 mills	5 mills	5 mills	
Number of pupils attending school	24	25	32	28	33	
Amount paid Macdonald College	840.	1,250.	1,600.	1,400.	1,650.	

School municipality of Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Total valuation roll	391,100.	396,100.	379,100.	390,250.	346,388.	This municipality pays for pupils grades 1 - 7 inclusive, Kindergarten and high school grades paid for by parents.
Rate for school tax	7½ mills	14 mills	12½ mills	11½ mills	12 mills	
Number of pupils attending school	122	98	99	103	99	
Amount paid to Macdonald College	4,270.	4,900.	4,950.	5,150.	4,950.	

Attendance (by grades) 1925.

<u>From school municipality of</u>	<u>Kindergarten</u>	<u>Grades 1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>	<u>5.</u>	<u>6.</u>	<u>7.</u>	<u>8.</u>	<u>9.</u>	<u>10.</u>	<u>11.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ste Anne de Bout de l'Ile (Baie d'Urfe)	1	3	3	2	3	4	2	8	7	1	2	0	36
Senneville	2	3	1	7	5	9	1	1	3	1	0	0	33
Ste Anne de Bellevue	0	14	13	17	21	12	15	10	6	4	5	3	120
Macdonald College employees } Military Hospital	2	10	5	17	11	8	3	2	6	4	0	4	72
Others	0	2	2	1	3	2	3	3	5	2	4	1	28

1926.

Ste Anne de Bout de l'Ile (Baie d'Urfe)	0	0	3	3	1	2	2	3	6	5	2	2	29
Senneville	1	3	4	4	8	7	10	0	3	2	1	0	43
Ste Anne de Bellevue	0	12	15	16	15	17	12	3	8	4	2	5	119
Macdonald College & Military Hospital	10	11	11	5	20	9	8	2	2	4	3	0	85
Others	0	2	0	2	2	3	1	2	1	0	5	3	21

Macdonald High School
Comparative statement of Income & Expenditure
for years ending 30th. June

INCOME	1921		1922		1923		1924		1925	
Fees,										
Ste. Anne de Bellevue	4,270.00		4,900.00		4,950.00		5,150.00		4,950.00	
Baie d'urfe	1,365.00		1,700.00		2,250.00		2,050.00		1,725.00	
Senneville	840.00		1,250.00		1,600.00		1,400.00		1,650.00	
Miscellaneous	799.00	7,274.00	1,787.00	9,637.00	2,045.00	10,845.00	2,000.00	10,600.00	2,068.50	10,393.50 ✓
Grants,										
Dept. of Public Instruction										
Superior Schools	500.00		540.00		1,050.00		1,050.00		X 1,050.00	
French Specialist	-	500.00	150.00	690.00	150.00	1,200.00	-	1,050.00	150.00	1,200.00
		7,774.00		10,327.00		12,045.00		11,650.00		11,593.50 ✓
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>										
Salaries for Instruction		10,423.27		11,674.17		12,766.94		14,437.55		14,717.98
Wages, Janitor service		720.00		720.00		720.00		720.00		773.23
Material & Supplies		241.26		211.10		147.86		152.43		138.96
Building Maintenance & Supplies		442.47		X 2,296.08		340.62		448.67		402.36
New Equipment		203.81		756.13		219.44		332.39		63.66
Equipment, Repairs & Renewals		-		50.47		66.09		67.73		33.33
Light, Heat & Water		2,020.00		1,940.00		1,890.00		1,890.00		1,825.00
Miscellaneous		18.26	14,069.07	155.82	17,803.77	96.62	16,247.57	92.44	18,141.21	100.39
										18,054.91
Excess Expenditure		6,295.07		7,476.77		4,202.57		6,491.21		6,461.41

Above figures do not include share of Administration, Grounds maintenance, Library and other like charges.

X Remodeling lavatories and basement.

X In suspense

MACDONALD COLLEGE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:

STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:

MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

16th September, 1926.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:-

With the resumption of the High School, we thought it advisable to have another meeting of the School Trustees with reference to the termination of the present contracts, attempting to make the new contracts retroactive from the 1st July, 1926. At the meeting held last week, the enclosed statement, clause 1, was discussed, but with reference to the suggested rates, (clause 5,) there was considerable difference of opinion and the municipalities of Baie d'Urfe and Senneville would not agree to put in a rate of seven mills. Senneville, in addition to this rate, would have to pay for the children's bus which would cost them another mill; Baie d'Urfe also expends \$400 for bus service. The municipalities agreed, however, that they would be willing to change the method of payment and place it on the assessment basis at the rate of $5\frac{1}{2}$ mills for the municipalities of Ste. Anne de Bout de l'Île and Senneville. Ste. Annes is being asked to pay 11 mills. It must be understood, however, that at the present time this municipality is only paying for children in Grades I to VII; children in the Kindergarten and in Grades VIII to XI have to pay fees of \$50.00. Under the proposed arrangement (clause 4) those coming to School from Vaudreuil and other places would have to pay \$70 a year, as this

Sir Arthur W. Currie.

16th September, 1926.

- 2 -

is the actual cost per capita.

An analysis shows an increase of revenue of \$1,102.

As we are to have another meeting on Monday evening I should be glad to have your views on this matter. I think the proposed change is in the best interests of the College, and whilst we could probably only obtain $5\frac{1}{2}$ mills from Ste. Anne de Bout de l'Île and Senneville this year, I should propose to make the arrangement for only two years, and then at the end of that period ask for a fresh contract.

Faithfully yours,

H. Hurson

Principal.

L.

1. The Trustees agree to the termination of the present contracts before June, 1926.
2. Instead of payment on a per capita basis, the Trustees agree to payment by means of a stated rate on the assessed value of property as made by the municipal authorities.
3. The proceeds of this rate, which may differ for each of the municipalities concerned, be paid to Macdonald College.
4. The College undertakes to admit to all classes, all protestant children from the three municipalities without payment of additional fees from parents or guardians.
5. The suggested rates be as follows:-

Baie d'Urfe	7 mills
Senneville	7 mills
Ste. Anne de Bellevue ..	10 mills.
6. This arrangement be made with the consent of the Trustees of the three municipalities of Baie d'Urfe, Senneville and Ste. Annes retroactive from July 1, 1926.
7. Each school municipality shall provide the college with a certified copy of its municipal valuation roll.

-MACDONALD HIGH SCHOOL-

Comparative Statement of estimated Revenue derived from Fees
received from the various municipalities sending pupils to School.

	<u>Estimated number of pupils. All Grades</u>	<u>\$50. per Capita basis</u>	<u>Estimated Val. Roll.</u>	<u>On Assessment basis</u>	<u>Mill.</u>
Ste Anne de Bellevue	128	\$6400.00	390,000.	11	4290.00
Ste Anne de Bout d'lisle	31	1550.00	685,000.	5½	3767.50
Senneville	45	2250.00	510,000.	5½	2805.00
Others	22	1100.00	70.00		1540.00
		<u>\$11300.00</u>			<u>\$12402.00</u>

MEMORANDUM RE VISIT TO
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE

December 16th, 1925.

I visited the Practice School which consists of all grades from 1 - 11, although there are but ten teachers including the Principal, Mr. Cook. I wonder how good he is. I was not very much impressed by the discipline nor by the interior economy, for instance, a leak existed in the basement which he said he had reported some half a dozen times. In this connection I gathered the impression that a little too much red tape existed between the Bursar's Office and Mr. Stevens, who has charge of the Repair Department.

All rooms in the school were overheated, the temperature ranging from 70 - 75. Apparently the ventiating system does not work well and children complain if windows are opened. The smell in some rooms was quite obnoxious. I inspected the basement, where the recreation rooms are, and they are not bad, being light, dry and clean.

I think it well to hold a conference with the Trustees of Baie d'Urfe, Senneville and Ste. Anne, who, I believe, are a little dissatisfied with something in connection with the school. It is really

a consolidated school, being the only one in the three municipalities above mentioned. It serves as our practice school and should be a real model school in all respects, particularly as regards accommodation, discipline, administration and teaching staff. The municipalities contribute \$50.00 per head. While this may be in some respects a fair basis, I wonder if it is the most just basis or if we are following the correct formula. This is a matter to be gone into at a conference and I have asked Dr. Harrison to send me the contributions by each municipality for the last five years and also their taxable property and rate.

Apparently our salaries at the school are on the low side and there should be a scale of salaries fixed so that teachers might know what their prospects were. In this connection also the budget for the School for Teachers must be settled in March. It is wrong to wait until June, because, according to the School Law of the Province, it is necessary to have pretty well fixed before June 1st the staff of the school for the ensuing year.

A.W.Currie.

September 17, 1926.

Dr. F.C. Harrison,
Macdonald College,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, P.Q.

Dear Dr. Harrison:-

Let me acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of yesterday, outlining the main provision of a new contract to be entered into between Macdonald High School and the several municipalities it serves.

I am in agreement with you that the proposed change is in the best interests of the College and authorise you to make the arrangement for the next two years, at which time the situation can be reviewed again.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

Est # 69 - sum 70 -

St Anne's

128 @ 70 12 5 1/2
8960 5150 4680

3000 3000
7 3/4 30

Base D'urf 25 3000 31 2170 1750 3750

Lenneville 3000 45 3150 2100 2850

14280 9000 10730
5040

College
but SW

72 2 1470
24 @ 70 70790

27 6 \$ 20701 -
3000

18520 3000 17707
59

15320

Plan 2

On a per capita basis

~~basis~~ rate \$ 60.00 for a minimum of 50 pupils.
 " 30 ~~750.00~~ " excess pupils.

Ste Anne	128	6120 ✓	5380 ✓	5340
Severville	50	3000 ✓		3000
Bois d'Urfe	50	3000 ✓		3000
		\$ 11,380.00		\$ 11,340
		\$ 12,120.00		

763
 2340
 3600
5340

20 ³¹ 21.00

~~\$~~ 5250

~~\$~~ 6120
 1000)
5120

300 ₂₀
6000

390 ₁₂
4680

685.00
7
 499.5

3900

5000
7
 3500

8th September, 1926.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF FINANCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE, MACDONALD HIGH SCHOOL, HELD JUNE 17 and 21, 1926.

At the meetings, it was agreed that:-

- ✓ 1. The Trustees agree to the termination of the present contracts before June, 1926.
- ✓ 2. Instead of payment on a per capita basis, the Trustees agree to payment by means of a stated rate on the assessed value of property as made by the municipal authorities.
- ✓ 3. The ~~net~~ proceeds of this rate, which may differ for each of the municipalities concerned, be paid to Macdonald College.
- ✓ 4. The College undertakes to admit to all ^{grades} ~~classes~~, all protestant children from the three municipalities without payment of additional fees from parents or guardians.
- 5. The suggested rates be as follows:-

Baie d'Urfe	7 mills	7 less bus service
Senneville	7 mills	
Ste Anne de Bellevue ...	10 mills.	
- ✓ 6. This arrangement be made with the consent of the Trustees of the three municipalities of Baie d'Urfe, Senneville and Ste. Annes respectively, ^{from} ~~on~~ July 1, 1926.
- ✓ 7. Each school municipality shall provide the college with a ^{annually as soon as practicable} ~~certified copy of its~~ municipal valuation roll. ^{statement of the total of its}

7 mills

31
 49
80

3425

MEMORANDUM RE VISIT TO
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE

For Mr. Glasco.

December 16th, 1925.

I visited the Practice School which consists of all grades from 1 - 11, although there are but ten teachers including the Principal, Mr. Cook. I wonder how good he is. I was not very much impressed by the discipline nor by the interior economy, for instance, a leak existed in the basement which he said he had reported some half a dozen times. In this connection I gathered the impression that a little too much red tape existed between the Bursar's Office and Mr. Stevens, who has charge of the Repair Department.

All rooms in the school were overheated, the temperature ranging from 70 - 75. Apparently the ventiating system does not work well and children complain if windows are opened. The smell in some rooms was quite obnoxious. I inspected the basement, where the recreation rooms are, and they are not bad, being light, dry and clean.

I think it well to hold a conference with the Trustees of Baie d'Urfe, Senneville and Ste. Anne, who, I believe, are a little dissatisfied with something in connection with the school. It is really

a consolidated school, being the only one in the three municipalities above mentioned. It serves as our practice school and should be a real model school in all respects, particularly as regards accommodation, discipline, administration and teaching staff. The municipalities contribute \$50.00 per head. While this may be in some respects a fair basis, I wonder if it is the most just basis or if we are following the correct formula. This is a matter to be gone into at a conference and I have asked Dr. Harrison to send me the contributions by each municipality for the last five years and also their taxable property and rate.

Apparently our salaries at the school are on the low side and there should be a scale of salaries fixed so that teachers might know what their prospects were. In this connection also the budget for the School for Teachers must be settled in March. It is wrong to wait until June, because, according to the School Law of the Province, it is necessary to have pretty well fixed before June 1st the staff of the school for the ensuing year.

A. W. CURRIE

MR. J. H. T. FALK'S MEMORANDUM RE MACDONALD HIGH SCHOOL

The cost of building the school proper was _____ . The total cost of operating the school in 1925 was \$18,054.91. The net cost to the College, that is the cost arrived at by deducting the total of the amounts received from the three dissentient school districts, amounts paid by parents sending children from other places nearby and amounts received from the Department of Public Instruction was in 1925 \$6,461.45 .

In 1925 there were in attendance at this school in all grades 289 children. This means that the cost per child in 1925 was \$62.47 . Of the 289 children, 72 were children of Professors or employees of the College. Using the above unit price, \$62.47, the cost of educating these 72 was in 1925 \$4,497.84. Deducting this amount from \$6,461.45 and we get an amount of \$1,963.61 as the contribution of the College towards the education of the children outside the College.

It must not be forgotten that in the operating costs above mentioned no amount has been included for interest charges on capital account, sinking fund or depreciation in connection with building charges, which on a capital expenditure of _____ would result approximately in an additional _____ on operating charges.

THE MACDONALD COLLEGE SCHOOL

A statement prepared for the School Tax-payers and the parents of children attending Macdonald College School from the Dissident School Districts of Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Ste Anne de Bout de L'Isle and Semneville.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Macdonald College School is the only school in the neighbourhood affording opportunities for primary or High-school education to Protestant children.

It stands on ground belonging to the College. In close proximity to it are the buildings of the College, which put at the disposal of the school a gymnasium and a swimming tank and a Household Science Department for the girls in the higher grades, and a manual training Department for the boys, for whom at times there has also been gymnasium and swimming. These activities for boys have had to be discontinued on account of there being now no Junior Master to whom the responsibility for their supervision could be entrusted.

Surrounding the school is ample space for unsupervised play and here the girls have their baseball diamond. The boys playing baseball on their own section of the ground and using the College campus for football.

Thus it will be realized that the school has physical equipment at its disposal, which cannot be equalled by any provincial

town school and greater use of which might be made if the staff of the school was enlarged to make supervision of boys' games possible.

THE FINANCIAL ASPECT OF THE SITUATION

A. The relation of Macdonald College to the School:

Exclusion of the physical equipment above mentioned which is part of the College equipment as distinct from the school equipment. The cost of building the school proper was \$

Since the institution of the school it has been the rule that the children of Professors and other employees of the college should receive free education at the school.

The total cost of operating the school during the last five years has been as follows:-

<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
\$14,069.07	\$17,803.77	\$16,247.57	\$18,141.21	\$18,054.91

The net cost to the College, i.e. the cost arrived at by deducting the total of the amounts received from the three Dissident School Districts, the amounts paid by parents sending children from other places nearby, and the amounts received from the Department of Public Instruction during the five year period 1921-1925 has averaged \$6,185.41 and was in 1925 \$6,461.45.

In 1925 there were in attendance at the school in all grades 289 children and it has been stated above that the total cost of operation was \$18,054.91 and the net cost to the College \$6,461.45 from which it will be seen that the average cost per child was \$62.47.

Of the 289 children attending the school 72 were children

of Professors or employees of the College.

Thus the cost of their education may be taken as having been \$4,497.84 leaving a balance of \$1,963.61 which amount had to be found by the College Authorities for the purpose of educating the children of the residents of the three school districts in question.

It may be contended that this amount is a justifiable charge upon the College in as much as the school primary grades from one to seven offer training facilities for the students in training in the School for Teachers of the College. Be that as it may, the fact remains that the College was out of pocket to the extent of \$1963.61 after charging to them the actual cost of educating the children of Professors and other employees.

On what basis do the school districts pay the College for the tuition of their children?

The three districts mentioned pay at the rate of \$50.00 per pupil per year. Thus it will be seen at a glance that they are not paying for the cost of educating the children, and it must never be forgotten that in the operating costs above mentioned no amount has been included for interest charges on capital account, sinking fund or depreciation in connection with building charges which, on a capital expenditure of \$ would probably result in an additional \$ on operating charges.

If the pupils, other than children of Professors and other College employees were paid for at cost, that is at the rate which for the purpose of this report has been charged to the College in reduction of the deficit on the annual operation, the income to the

College would be increased by \$2705.00 (217 X (\$62.47 - \$50.00) a sum which would enable the College to add substantially to the school staff and overcome difficulties, which will later be enumerated.

Why then, it will be asked, does the College not insist on the non-college children being paid for at the rate of \$62.47 (i.e. cost in 1925).

The situation in Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

It must now be remembered that the College cannot make one rate for one Dissident school district and another for another for identically similar services.

But the situation in the three districts are by no means similar. For the sake of those tax-payers or parents, who are not familiar with school-law it is here stated that the revenue of any district for school purposes comes from a tax fixed by the school Boards or Trustees at a certain number of mills on the dollar of assessed value. The assessment value usually being taken as the value fixed by the assessors for ordinary municipal taxes.

All the existing property is then divided as between property owned by Roman Catholics and property owned by non-Roman Catholics.

The school tax for a Protestant School system has then to be fixed at a rate, which, levied against Protestant owned property, will supply enough money to meet the cost of operation. If there were 100 Protestant families in Ste. Anne de Bellevue, 99 of whom lived in houses owned by Roman Catholics, and there was only one Protestant family owning property in Ste. Anne de Bellevue, then that one Protestant property owner would have to bear the entire cost of providing

education for all the children of the 100 Protestant families.

Actually the situation in Ste. Anne de Bellevue in 1925 is not as extreme as that, but it is sufficiently ridiculous to necessitate and to justify serious consideration as to how it can be remedied.

The following table shows over the five year period,- (1) The assessment value and (2) The number of pupils of the Ste. Anne de Bellevue district from which it will be seen that the assessment value of Protestant property has actually decreased from \$391,000 in 1921 to \$346,388 in 1925, i.e. \$44,712 or 11.4%.

<u>Ste. Anne de Bellevue District</u>					
	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
Assessment value of Protestant property	391,100	396,100	379,100	390,250	346,388
No. of pupils	122	98	99	103	99

The truth is that the situation is becoming worse and will become worse because the heavy school taxes are discouraging Protestants from buying their own property in the Town of Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Now it will be understood why the College does not wish to increase the rate charged per pupil from \$50.00 to \$62.47 which would merely add to the already intolerable burdens of the Ste. Annes Protestant property owners.

The position of the parent of school children who is also a taxpayer in Ste. Annes.

Not only does the parent taxpayer have to pay heavily in taxes, but even then his taxes (he pays 12 mills as against 10 mills in the central School Board of Montreal for instance) do not do more than supply enough money to the Ste. Annes Trustees to pay the College \$50.00

per pupil for pupils in the primary grades one to seven. If a Ste. Anne's Protestant parent property owner (or one renting Catholic owned property) wants to send a child to kindergarten or to High School, i.e. grades 8 to 11 he must pay the \$50.00 per year direct to the College in addition to his taxes. Furthermore in an effort to make both ends meet his Trustees require him to pay \$15.00 per year for each child attending the primary grades,- a charge which is only enforced in the case of better-off parents who are able to meet it.

The Situation in the other two districts - Senneville and Ste. Anne de Bout de l'isle (Baie d'Urfe.)

The very condition which works such a hardship on Ste. Annes, creates a situation in these two districts which results in the Protestant property owner having to pay an absurdly low tax rate on a valuation rate which is from 50 to 75% of the selling value of his property as against 90% to 100% in Ste. Annes.

Why the low rate? Because the amount of Protestant owned property in these two districts is large in proportion to the number of Protestant children.

It should be pointed out that the proximity of Ste. Annes to the Railroad Station results in families, who live all the year round in the Ste. Annes district living in the town of Ste. Annes, whereas the Protestant property owners in the Senneville and Ste. Annes de Bout de L'Isle district are for the most part summer residents, whose children go to schools in Montreal.

A glance at the following table shows the situation in the three districts:-

	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
<u>STE. ANNES</u>					
Property valuation	391,100	396,100	379,100	390,250	346,388
Children	122	98	99	103	99
<u>SENNEVILLE</u>					
Property valuation	574,150	461,100	466,300	491,600	510,700
Children	24	25	32	28	33
<u>STE. ANNES de BOUT de L'ISLE (BAIE d'URFE)</u>					
Property valuation	812,492	820,156	654,750	654,750	
Children	39	35	46	42	35

FIGURES WHICH ACCOUNT FOR THE TAX RATE BEING IN MILLS

	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
<u>STE. ANNES</u>	* 7½	14	12½	11½	12
<u>SENNEVILLE</u>	3	5	5	5	5
<u>STE. A. de B de L'I</u>	3	4	4	4½	4½

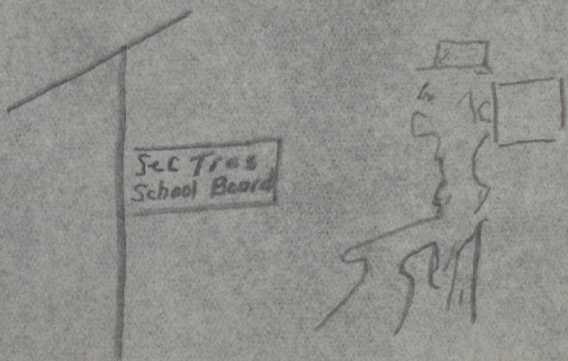
Even these comparatively few figures may be confusing to some, who may really want to understand this situation and to place before the reader in graphic and hence dramatic form there follows a statement of a hypothetical or imaginary case of two Protestant property owning parents living across the road from each other, one in Senneville and the other in Ste. Anne de Bellevue. Assuming that they both live in houses which cost the same amount to build and have an equal sale value - \$10,000 - and that each family has four children aged 5, 8, 11 and 14.

Mr. Senneville's house will probably be assessed at about \$6,000.00 on which he will pay a 5 mill rate and his taxes amounting to \$30.00 per year will permit him to send all his four children to school, one in the Kindergarten, two in the primary grades and one in the High School. Moreover, they can drive free to and fro from school in the School Bus. Mr. Ste. Anne de Bellevue, however, will have his property assessed at about \$9,000.00 on which he will pay a 12 mill rate amounting in all to \$108.00 per annum to which must be added a special fee for his Kindergarten child of \$50.00 and another \$50.00 for the High School child and \$25.00 per year for the two children in the primary grades making in all \$233.00 for his four children's education, and they will have to walk to and fro from school in all weather.

Graphically presented Mr. Senneville and Mr. Ste. Anne de Bellevue in this case would look like this if they carried their year's school taxes in coppers on their backs to the Secretary Treasurers of their Boards. We have put Mr. Senneville in front because his burden is so light he does not find it very difficult to carry had we introduced

MR. SENNEVILLE

MR. STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE.



Mr. Ste. Anne de Bout de L'Isle into the picture he with his $4\frac{1}{2}$ mill rate (reduced in 1926 to 4 mills) would have been in advance of Mr. Senneville.

So much for the Financial aspect of the situation for the present -- what of the educational aspects?

The Educational Aspect.

Sir Arthur Currie, Principal of McGill University, under whose jurisdiction the College and School comes, has said that the school ought to be the best school in the Province.

Certainly a school in which the future teachers of the Protestant children of this Province are being taught how to teach ought to be the best school in the Province. But to make a school the best school there is needed something more than good physical equipment.

There is needed, first and foremost, a competent and adequate staff and a staff which, because it is fairly paid and given a task within its power will be happy and content and in which the turnover from year to year will be reduced to the minimum rendered necessary by marriages of women teachers, sickness and other accidents.

Secondly, there is needed a Board of Trustees to represent the views of the parents to the Principal and to represent the views of the Principal and his staff to the parents.

Without these two essentials a first rate school is almost an impossibility and at the Macdonald School neither requisite is met.

To the everlasting credit of some of its women teachers, it must be stated that they have remained faithful to the school and have lived up to the highest ethical standards of their profession in doing so, when the temptations to leave have been many and strong. In saying this it must not be taken as a reflection on others, who have done excellent work and since left for more hopeful and less trying fields of service.

The school has, unfortunately, a bad reputation amongst the teachers of the Province as a school, where the children as a whole are undisciplined and not eager to learn. It is no use hiding this fact - the reputation exists and the school authorities can cite many instances to account for its existing.

Let us assume that the discipline is not what it should be and that the children as a whole are not as eager to learn as they should be, as they are in other less favoured small towns in the Province. What is the cause?

No ONE circumstance; but there is one factor which, without question in the minds of the parents has contributed to a lack of interest on their part in the school, namely - that it has been said to them probably times and times again that the school does not exist as a vehicle for education of their children, but as a vehicle by which the student teachers of the College may learn how to teach.

Further than that, nine School Trustees - three in each of the three districts in which number there are at the present time two Presidents of large corporations, four Professional men, and these other business men are not only not allowed to have any say in regard to any question in connection with the school, but also are never asked for their advice on any question.

Their responsibility is, as they have been told, to supply the funds and nothing more. Under these circumstances, what else might be expected but apathy or even direct antagonism.

What is needed

First, more money for the school. Second, a responsible Board of Trustees representing the Taxpayers forming together with representatives of the School for Teachers a Board of Management for the school, which shall report to and be responsible to the Principal and Board of Governors of McGill University.

How to accomplish this.

It has already been shown that the Ste. Anne de Bellevue Taxpayers cannot be asked to do more than they are doing now. It is unsound in principle that the financial arrangements between the three districts should be different.

There is only one sound way of accomplishing an even distribution of the burden, whilst at the same time enabling the school to receive more money from the Protestant property owners in the three districts - namely an amalgamation of the three Dissident School Districts into one district under one Board with one assessment valuation and one tax rate.

What would this mean in dollars and cents to the two low taxed districts?

Assuming that the expenditure on the school ought to be increased 20% to give the desired efficiency by adding additional teachers and enabling the school to pay higher salaries giving it a budget of say \$21,500 of which amount a minimum of \$6500 may be expected to be contributed by the College either on account of the education of Professors and employees' children or from grants from the Department of Public Instruction.

Then there is left \$15,000 to be provided by the three districts then united. Even on the basis of the existing valuations

for assesment purposes, that is to say, without attempting to assess all Protestant property owners on the same basis within the three districts a rate of 7 mills on the total assesment for the current year 1926, which amounts to \$ up as follows -

Senneville \$, Ste. Anne de Bellevule \$
Ste. Anne de Bout de L'Isle \$ would provide the \$15,000
required.

What is the attitude of the present Trustees?

By a vote of 8 to 1 the nine Trustees representing the three districts on passed the following resolutions:-

And this statement is prepared in advance taking formal steps to have a vote taken on the question amalgamation.

What should be the Attitude of a Trustee?

Some people have expressed the opinion that the duties of the Trustees of a school district are to keep taxes down at all costs. The eight Trustees who voted for amalgamation, and they included all the three Senneville Trustees and two of the Ste. Anne de Bout de L'Isle Trustees, felt differently; they felt that their first trust was to the cause of education of the children in their districts.

If that is so, then no Trustee in either one of the three districts ought to vote against amalgamation, knowing that the only permanent and equitable method of making it possible to provide more money for the Macdonald School from the Protestant property owners of the district is by amalgamation and equalization of the distribution of the burden.

What do the large summer-resident tax payers have to say about amalgamation in Senneville and Baie d'Urfe?

H. M. Marler, W.F. Angus, C. F. Martin, etc. etc. have written as follows to Sir Arthur Currie. (Quote from their letters)

What do the small tax payers all the year round residents in Senneville
have to say?

C. B. Porter, R. R. Macaulay,

What is the opinion of a man who owns property and has no children in
whose education he is interested?

"The development of my property is in my opinion largely dependent upon the education facilities of the district, I shall get back all the extra taxes and shall even be asked to pay many times over the appreciated value of my land if Macdonald College School is always to be a first-class School".

What is the alternative?

There is no alternative - it is inconceivable that affairs should be allowed to get to such a state as to render it necessary for the Government to step in and force an amalgamation or worse still, force us into the Central School District.

The alternative is to leave "bad" enough alone, which would mean that Ste. Annes and its vicinity will sooner or later die an

unnatural and deserved death as a residential suburb for English
Protestant families.

July 9th, 1926.

Dr. F. C. Harrison,
Principal, Macdonald College,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.

Dear Dr. Harrison:-

Let me acknowledge receipt of
your letter of the 8th of July with reference to
your meetings with the School Trustees of the
surrounding municipalities.

I congratulate you on the success
of these meetings.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

8th July, 1926.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I am enclosing a memo regarding our meetings
with the School Trustees of the three municipalities.

Faithfully yours,

R. Harrison
Principal.

L.

Letter attached on Mr. Glasco's file

Montreal Council of Social Agencies

PROTESTANT AND NON-SECTARIAN

OFFICERS, 1926

President: MRS. WELLINGTON DIXON
Hon. Secretary: J. M. MACDONNELL, ESQ.
Hon. Treasurer: J. J. M. PANGMAN, ESQ.

OFFICE: ROOM 201, 957 ATWATER AVENUE

TELEPHONE—UPTOWN 7490

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Secretary: J. HOWARD T. FALK, ESQ.
Secretary, Social Service Exchange: MISS E. BOWDEN
Office Secretary: MISS D. E. PENFOLD

CHAIRMEN, STANDING COMMITTEES

Conference—DR. C. A. DAWSON
Executive—VERY REV. A. CARLISLE
Finance—LT.-COL. GEO. S. CURRIE
Research—MISS V. C. LAFLEUR
Social Service Exchange—VERY REV. A. CARLISLE

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

Chairman—MRS. GEO. MACDONALD
Hon. Secretary—MISS V. C. LAFLEUR

DEPENDENCY & DELINQUENCY DIVISION

Chairman—GEO. B. CLARKE, ESQ.
Hon. Secretary—MISS ESTHER KERRY

EDUCATION AND RECREATION DIVISION

Chairman—WILLIAM BOWIE, ESQ.
Hon. Secretary—MISS G. L. HURD

HEALTH DIVISION

Chairman—DR. A. GRANT FLEMING
Hon. Secretary—MRS. STEWART GRAFFTEY

May 10th, 1926.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:

I have your letter of the 7th inst. enclosing a copy of your letter to Dr. Harrison, for which I thank you.

I am sure that all the trustees who were present at the meeting last Tuesday were delighted at the attitude shown by yourself to our problems, and I sincerely hope that it will result, not only in ~~more~~ harmonious relationships existing between the college authorities and the parents of the neighborhood, but also in some scheme being worked out by which the school districts will be able to meet ~~the~~ larger portion of the annual budget of the school.

As there was no resolution passed at the meeting, would it be possible for you to write a formal letter to each of the three school districts, asking them to appoint one of their number to meet with the college authorities, as indicated in your letter, for the purpose of discussing the budget and bringing in the report for which you ask.

In the case of Ste. Anne's and Senneville districts, there is complete harmony, but in the case of Ste. Anne de Bout de l'Isle, Mr. Walkinshaw, as you saw from last Tuesday's meeting, is antagonistic. He is, however, Chairman of the Board, and in writing to him, may I suggest that you word your letter so as to make it clear that the three trustees, i.e. himself, myself, and Mr. Harknell, should hold a meeting to appoint their representative to this committee, otherwise I am afraid that he will appoint himself, without Mr. Harknell or myself having a chance to say anything.

Yours very truly,

J. Howard T. Falk

JHTE/G.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

17th May, 1926.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I beg to acknowledge yours of May 14th.

I have sent out letters to each of the School Boards asking them to nominate a member for the financial committee; there has not yet been time for a reply.

I am surprised at what you tell me with regard to Mr. Walkinshaw. I had some conversation with him after the meeting. I gathered that he was very much opposed to amalgamation of the municipalities for school purposes, but that his municipality would be willing to contribute a larger amount than it does at present. In fact he was not averse to the suggestion that they should pay for the children of college employees resident on college property in Baie d'Urfe. If his municipality does this, it would mean an extra contribution of approximately \$1500.00.

Faithfully yours,

J. Harrison

Principal.

L.

May 14th, 1926.

Dr. F. C. Harrison,
Principal, Macdonald College,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue,
Quebec.

Dear Dr. Harrison:-

With reference to your letter of the 13th, it is the same Committee to which I refer in both letters.

I am anxious that the municipalities will make a larger contribution to Macdonald College and I would like them to consider the question at once, because I believe the time is favourable for us. Frankly and confidentially I will tell you why I wrote the letter of the 12th. I know that Mr. Walkingshaw will be in opposition to anything of an increase from his district, but I happen to know that the other trustees are favourable. I do not want Walkinshaw to nominate himself as the representative from his district and if he calls a meeting I believe his Board will elect some one else.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

13th May, 1926.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:-

I beg to acknowledge your letters of May 7th and 12th. I should have answered the former earlier, but I have been confined to the house since the evening of the meeting and am not yet out.

In the final paragraph of your letter of the 7th you suggest a ^{financial} sub-committee; I wondered if you had anything else in mind in your second letter?

Faithfully yours,

J. H. Morrison
Principal.

L.

May 12, 1926.

Dr. F.C. Harrison,
Principal, Macdonald College,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Dear Dr. Harrison:-

Since writing you regarding the Macdonald High School it has been suggested to me that some formal request should go to the Board of Trustees asking them to nominate a representative to the Sub-Committee on Finance, the constitution of which was agreed to at our meeting. It appears to me that this request should properly be sent out by yourself, and I suggest therefore that you should write to the secretaries of the various boards in the following sense:-

"I have been requested by the Principal of McGill University to ask you to name at your next meeting or at a special meeting a representative to act on the Financial Sub-Committee charged with considering the budget of Macdonald High School, and to inform me of the name of such representative, so that a meeting may be called as early as possible".

I feel that such a notice might speed matters up a little.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

April 23, 1926.

Dr. A.S. Lamb,
Department of Physical Education,
McGill University.

Dear Dr. Lamb:-

After consultation with Mr. J. Howard T. Falk and with the Staff of Macdonald College, I feel that it would be very advantageous to us all if the whole position could be discussed at a meeting of representatives of McGill University and the trustees of the various school districts using the Macdonald College High School.

I learn from Mr. Falk that it would be convenient to hold such a meeting in the Principal's Office, Macdonald College, on Tuesday, May 4th at 8.15 p.m., and I should be very grateful if you would meet me at that time and place. I understand that you will also hear directly from Mr. Falk in this connection.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

Sent to the attached list.

Dr.A.S. Lamb.

J.T. Farmer, C.E.,
20, St. Nicholas Street.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

H.W. Hartnell, Esq.,
c/o Can. Car and Foundry Co.,
307, Craig St. West.

Frank Walkinshaw, Esq.,
35, St. Nicolas Street.

W.S. Fallis, Esq.,
Sherwin-Williams Company,
897, Centre St.

W.G. Stuart,
c/o James Stewart
308 St. Nicholas Building

C.B. Powter, Esq.,
High School.

J.L. McNutt, Esq.,
Geo. W. Reed & Co., Ltd.,
37, St. Antoine St.

J.H.T. Lalk,

Montreal Council of Social Agencies
97 Stwater Ave.

9490



THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS Co.
OF CANADA, LIMITED

W.S. FALLIS, VICE PRESIDENT & MANAGING DIRECTOR

Montreal
Quebec
April
26 - 1926

Dear Sir Arthur:

Your letter of the
23rd instant at hand.

I will be very glad
to meet the representatives of McGill University
to discuss the High School situation relative to
the three districts, including and adjacent to
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, at the time and place in-
dicated.

Yours very truly,

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

MACDONALD COLLEGE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:

STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

POST OFFICE:

MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

11th January, 1926.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:-

With regard to the statement of the Macdonald High School. I have not been able to get the financial statement from the Bursar up to the present time due to his illness, but he is now back at work and I expect to be able to obtain it in due course.

Col. Bovey 'phoned me this morning about the names of the Trustees of the various Municipalities; they are as follows, together with their post office addresses:-

Ste. Anne de Bellevue:-

Dr. Arthur S. Lamb,)
Jas. K. McNutt,) Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.
John T. Farmer,)

For Senneville:-

W. S. Fallis,)
C. B. Powter,) Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.
W. McG. Stuart,)

For Baie d'Urfe:-

J. Howard T. Falk,)
H. W. Hartnell,) Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.
F. Walkinshaw,)

I do not know whether the Mayors should be asked as well. The Mayor of Senneville is R. R. Macaulay, (P.O. address,

Sir Arthur W. Currie.

11th January, 1926.

- 2 -

Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.). I am not sure of the Mayor of Baie d'Urfe; it is either Fred J. Shaw, c/o 17 Victoria Square, Montreal, or J. Watterson, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

I am informed that these Trustees have already arranged for a meeting at which they are going to put forward a pro forma proposal for amalgamation. This has already been arranged, and after that, it will be necessary to place the issue before the ratepayers of the respective Municipalities. Under these circumstances do you think it advisable for the College to participate in any of this discussion, as whatever action we may take it is bound to antagonize a large number of people, for if we support the amalgamation those who are opposed to it will say that the college has no business in the matter and should not interfere; the same is equally true if we happen to take the other side. As the matter has gone so far, I should think they could find out themselves definitely what the ratepayers are desirous of doing. I am afraid that if we took any action at all our motives might be misinterpreted. This is not only my opinion, but the opinion of a number of others with whom I have discussed the matter at the College.

I have prepared, as well as I can, the statistics for which you ask. In some cases they may be slightly inaccurate.

June	Ste. Annes	College	Baie d'Urfe	Senne-ville	Vaudreil	Others
1921	108	57	40	21	2	25
1922	120	7	36	32	7	7
1923	126	60	46	31	4	23
1924	129	80	45	31	3	21
1925	124	72	33	33	7	20

Faithfully yours,

J. Watterson
Principal.

1
The Macdonald College School.

A Statement prepared for the School Tax-payers and the Parents of children attending Macdonald College School from the Dissected School Districts of St Anne de Bellevue, St Anne de Bout de Pich and Senneville.

1. Introduction.

The Macdonald College School is the only school in the neighborhood affording opportunities for Primary and or High-School education to Protestant children.

It stands on ground belonging to the college. In close proximity to it are the buildings of the college, which part of ~~the~~ disposal of the school a gymnasium for girls and a swimming tank for girls and a household science Dept. for the girls in the higher grades and a manual training Dept. for the boys, for whom at times there has also been gymnasium and swimming.

These activities ^{for boys} ~~which~~ have had to be discontinued on account of there being now no junior master to whom the responsibility for their supervision could be entrusted.

2
Surrounding the school is ample space for
unsupervised play and here the girls have
their baseball diamond. The boys play
baseball on their own section of the ground
and using the college campus for football.

Thus it will be realized that the school
has physical equipment at its disposal, which
cannot be equaled by any provincial town
school and greater use of which might be
made if the staff of the school was enlarged
to make a ~~greater degree of~~ supervision of
boys games possible.

The Financial Aspects of the Situation.

A. The relation of Macdonald College to the School.

Exclusion of the physical equipment above mentioned
which is part of the college equipment as distinct
from the school equipment. The cost of
building the school proper was \$

3.

Since the institution of the school it has been the rule that the children of Professors and other Employees of the College should receive free Education at the School.

The total cost of operating the School during the last five years has been as follows.

<u>1921.</u>	<u>1922.</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925-</u>
14,069.07	17,803.77	16,247.57	18,141.21	18,054.91

The net cost to the College i.e. the cost arrived at by deducting the total ^{of the} amounts received from the three constituent School districts, the amounts paid by parents sending children from other places nearby and the amounts received from the ~~Provincial Government~~ Dept. of Public Instruction ~~has~~ during the five year period 1921-1925 has averaged \$6185.41 and was in 1925 \$6461.45.

In 1925 there were in attendance at the school in all grades 289 children and it has been stated above that the total cost of operation was \$18,054.91 and the net cost to the College 6461.45

from which it will be seen that the average cost per child was \$ 62.47.

Of the 289 children attending the School 72 were children of Professors or employees of the College.

Thus the cost of their education may be taken as having been \$ 4497.84

leaving a balance of \$ 1963.61 which amount had to be found by the College Authorities for the purpose of educating the children of the residents of the three municipal School districts in question.

It may be contended that this amount is a justifiable charge upon the College in as much as the School primary grades from 1 to 7 offer teaching training facilities for the students in training in the School for Teachers of the College.

5.

Be that as it may the fact remains
that the College was out of pocket
to the extent of \$1963.61 after charging
~~against~~ to them the actual ^{average} cost of
educating the children of Professors and
other employees.

On what basis do the School districts
pay ^{the colleges} for the tuition of their children?

The three districts mentioned pay at the
rate of \$50 per pupil per year.

Thus it will be seen at a glance that
they are not paying for the cost of
educating the children AND IT MUST

NEVER BE FORGOTTEN THAT IN THE
OPERATING COSTS ABOVE MENTIONED
NO AMOUNT HAS BEEN INCLUDED, AS
~~HAS TO BE DONE~~ FOR INTEREST CHARGES
ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT, SINKING FUND OR
DEPRECIATION IN CONNECTION WITH BUILDINGS

6. charges which on a capital expenditure of \$ _____ would probably result in an additional \$ _____ on operating charges.

Further
school

If the pupils, other than children ~~sent~~ of Professors and other college employees were paid for at cost that is at the rate which for the purpose of this report has been charged ~~against~~ ^{to the college} in reduction of the deficit on the annual operation, the income to the college would be increased by \$2705.99 ($217 \times (\$62.47 - \$50.00)$) a sum which would enable the college to add substantially to the school staff and overcome difficulties, which will later be enumerated.

Why then, it will be asked, does the college not insist on the non-college children being paid for at the rate of \$62.47 (i.e. cost in 1925)

The situation in St Anne de Bellevue.

It must now be remembered that the College cannot make one rate for one ^{dependent} ~~university~~ school district and another for another

7 for identically similar services.

But the situation in the three districts are by no means similar. For the sake of those taxpayers or parents, who are not familiar with school-law it is here stated that the revenue of any district for school purposes comes from a tax fixed by the school boards or Trustees at a certain number of mills on the dollar of assessed value. The assessment value usually being taken as the value fixed by the assessors for ordinary municipal taxes.

All the existing property is then divided as between property owned by Roman Catholics and property owned by non-Roman Catholics.

The ^{School} tax-rate for a Protestant School ^{system} has been to be fixed at a rate, which levied against Protestant owned property will supply enough money to meet the cost of operation.

8.

If there were 100 ^{Families} ~~children~~ Protestant ~~children~~ in St Anne de Bellevue 99 of whom lived in houses owned by Roman Catholics and there was only one Protestant family owning property in St Anne de Bellevue, then that one Protestant property owner would have to bear the entire cost of providing ~~the~~ ^{the} cost of education for all the children of the 100 Protestant families.

Actually the situation in St Anne de Bellevue in 1925 is not as extreme as that but it is sufficiently ridiculous to necessitate and to justify serious consideration as to how it can be remedied.

The following table shows over the five year period 1. the assessment value of the St Anne de Bellevue district 2. The number of pupils, from which it will be seen that the assessment value of Protestant property has actually decreased from \$ 391,000 in 1921 to \$ 346,388 in 1925.

9. I.S. \$44,712 or 11.4%.

1. St Anne de Bellevue District

	<u>1921</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1925</u>
Assessment value of Protestant Property	391,100	396,100	379,100	390,250	346,388
No of pupils	? (122)	98	99	103	99

The truth is that the situation is becoming worse and will become worse because the heavy school taxes are discouraging Protestants from buying their own property in the Town of St Anne de Bellevue.

Now it will be understood why the College does not wish to increase the rate charged per pupil from \$50 to \$62.47 which would merely add to the already intolerable burdens of the St Anne's Protestant property owners.

The position of the Parent of school children who is also a taxpayer in St Anne's.

Not only does the Parent tax-payer have to pay heavily in taxes but even then his taxes (he pays 12 mills in against 10 mills in the central School board of Montreal for instance)

~~but~~ do not do more than supply enough money
 to the St. Ann's Trustees to pay ~~for~~ the College
 \$50 per pupil for pupils in the primary
 grades 1 to 7. If a St. Ann's ~~Assistant~~
 Parent ^{property owner} ~~that pays~~ (or ^{one} visiting Catholic owned
 property) wants to send a child to kindergarten
 or to High School i.e. grades 8 to 11 he must
 pay the \$50 per year direct to the college
 in addition to his taxes. Furthermore in an

effort to make both ends meet his Trustees
 require

~~that~~ him to pay \$15 per ^{year} ~~month~~ for each

child attending the primary grades. A charge

which ~~cannot~~ ^{is only} legally be enforced ~~and it is only~~

~~paid voluntarily~~ by the better off Parents.

who are able to meet it.

The situation in the other two districts
Senneville and St Anne de Bout de l'Isle (Baie D'Orfe)

The very condition which works such a hardship
 on St Anne's, creates a situation in these
 two districts which results in the Protestant
 property owners ~~of~~ having to pay an absurdly
 low tax rate on a valuation ^{rate} which is
 from 50 to 75% of the selling value of his
 property as against 90% to 100% in
 St Anne's.

Why this low rate? because the ^{amount} number
 of Protestant owned property in these two
 districts is large in proportion to the ~~amount~~
 number of Protestant children.

It should be pointed out that the proximity
 of St Anne's to the Railroad Station results
 in families, who live all the year round
 in ^{the} St Anne's district living in the town
 of St Anne's, whereas the Protestant property
 owners in the Senneville & St Anne de Bout de l'Isle

¹² District are for the most part summer residents, whose children go to schools in Montreal.

A glance at the following table shows the situation in the three districts.

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
St Ann's	Property valuation 391,100	396,100	379,100	390,250	346,388
	Children 122	98	99	103	99
St Ann's	Property valuation 374,150	461,100	466,300	491,600	570,700
	Children 24	25	32	28	33
St Ann's (Home & Day)	Property valuation 812,492	820,156	652,750	654,750	
	Children 39	35	46	42	35

Figures which account for the tax rate being in mills.

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
St Ann's	* 7 1/2	14	12 1/2	11 1/2	12
St Ann's	3	5	5	5	5
St Ann's	3	4	4	4 1/2	4 1/2

The school

Even these comparatively few figures may be confusing to some, who may really want to understand this situation and to place before the reader in graphic and hence dramatic form there follows a statement of a hypothetical or imaginary case of two

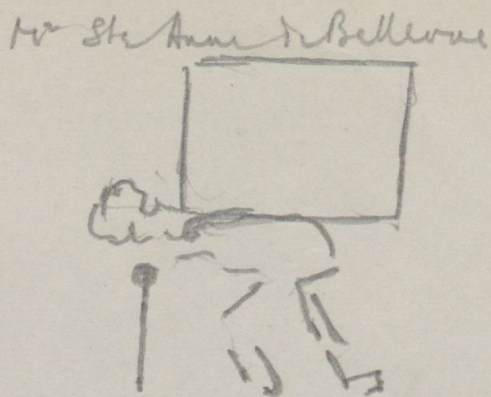
Protestant Property owning parents living
across the road from
~~next door to~~ each other, one in Senalville
and the other in Ste Anne de Bellevue.

Assuming that they both live in houses
which cost the same amount to build, ~~\$10,000~~
and have an equal sale value ^{\$10,000} and that
each family has four children aged
5, 8, 11, + 14.

The Senalville house will probably be assessed
at about \$6000 on which he will pay a
5 mill rate and his taxes amounting
to \$30 per year will permit him to send
all his four children to school 1 in the
Kindergarten two in the primary grades and
one in the high school. Moreover they can
drive free to and fro from school in the
School Bus.

Mr St Anne de Bellevue however will have
 his property assessed at about \$9000
 on which he will pay a 12 mill rate
 amounting in all to \$108.00 p.a. to which
 must be added a special fee for his
 kindergarten child of \$20 and another \$
 \$50 for the high school child and ~~\$30~~²⁵ per
~~month~~^{year} for the two children in the primary
 grades making in all \$~~305~~²³³ for his
 four children's education and they will have
 to walk to & from school in all weather.

Graphically presented Mr Senneville and
 Mr St Anne de Bellevue in the case would
 look like this if they carried their school
 taxes in coppers on their backs to the Secretary
 Treasurers of their Boards. We have put
 Mr Senneville in front because his burden
 is so light he does not find it very difficult
 to carry.



had we introduced Mr Ste Anne de Bout de L'Isle into the picture he with his 4 1/2 mills rate ~~and~~ ~~reduced~~ in 1926 to 4 mills / would have been in advance of Mr Semneville.

So much for the financial aspect of the situation for the present what of the educational aspects.

The Educational aspect.

Sir Arthur Currie Principal of McGill University under whose jurisdiction the College & school comes, has said that the school ought to be the best school in the Province.

Certainly a school in which the future teachers of the Protestant children of this Province are being taught how to teach

Ought to be the best school in the Province.
 But to make a school the best school ^{there is}
 needs something more than good physical
 equipment.

There is needed, first and foremost a
 competent and adequate staff and a staff
 which because it is fairly paid and given
 a task within its power will be happy and
 content and in which the turnover from
 year to year will be reduced to the minimum
 indeed necessary by marriage of women
 teachers sickness and other accidents.

Secondly there is needed a Board of Trustees
 to represent the ^{views of the} Parents to the Principal
 and to represent the views of the Principal and
 his staff to the parents.

Without these two essentials a first rate
 school is almost an impossibility and at
 the Macdonald School neither requisite

is met.

To the ever lasting credit of some of its women teachers, ~~they have~~ it must be stated that they have remained faithful to the school and have ^{held up to} ~~shown~~ the highest ethical standards of their profession in doing so, when the temptations to leave have been many and strong. In saying this it must not be taken as a reflection on others, who have done excellent work and since left for more hopeful and less trying fields of service.

The school has unfortunately a bad reputation amongst the teachers of the Province as a school, when the children as a whole are undisciplined and not eager to learn.

It is no use hiding this fact; the reputation exists and the school authorities can cite many instances to account for its existing.

18.

Let us assume that the discipline is not what it should be and that the children as a whole are not as eager to learn as they should be, and are in other respects favored small towns in the Province. What is the cause?

No ~~ONE~~ circumstance; but there is one factor which without question in the minds of the parents has contributed to a lack of interest on their part in the school namely that it has been said to them publicly times and again that the school does not exist ^{as a vehicle} ~~because of the need for the~~ education ~~of~~ their children but as a vehicle by which the student teachers of the college may learn how to teach.

19. Further than that nine School Trustees
three in each of the three districts
in which members then are at the present
time two ~~members~~ Presidents of large
corporations four professional men
and three ^{other} business men, are not only
not allowed to have any say in regard to
any question in connection with the school
but also ~~are~~ never asked for their advice
on any question.

Their ~~responsibility~~ ^{responsibility} is as ~~has~~ ^{they have} often been told
is to supply the funds and nothing more.
Under these circumstances what else ~~can~~ ^{might}
be expected but apathy or even direct
antagonism.

What is needed

First more money for the school.
 Second a responsible Board of Trustees
 representing the Tax payers forming together
 with representatives of the College School for
 Teachers a Board of management for
 the school, which shall report to and
 be responsible to the Principal and
 Board of Governors of McGill University.

How to accomplish this

It has already been shown that the St. Anne's
 de Bellevue Tax payers cannot be asked to
 do more than he is doing now. It is
 unsound in principle that the financial
 arrangements between the same districts
 should be different.

There is only one sound way of
 accomplishing an even distribution of the
 burden whilst at the same time

Enabling the School to receive more money from the Protestant property owners in the three districts - namely an amalgamation of the three Dissident School Districts into one District under one board with one assessment valuation and one tax rate.

What would this mean in dollars and cents to the ^{three} low taxed districts? Assuming that the ^{expenditure on} ~~income of~~ the School ought to be increased 20% to give the desired efficiency by adding additional teachers and enabling the school to pay higher salaries ^{on a budget} ~~an income~~ of say \$21,500 of which amount a minimum of \$6500 may be expected to be contributed by the College either on a part of the education of Professors & employees children or from grants from the Dept of Public Instruction

There then is left \$15,000 to be provided
 by the three districts then united,
 even on the basis of the existing
 valuations for assessment purposes, that
 is to say without attempting to equalize
 across all ~~the~~ Protestant property owners on the
 same basis within the three districts
 a rate of 3 mills on the total
 assessment for the current year 1926
 which amounts to \$ _____ needs
 up as follows ~~with~~ ~~St~~ ~~Ann~~ville \$
 St Anne & Bellevue \$ _____ St Anne
 & Port de L'Isle \$ _____
 would ~~not~~ provide the \$15,000 required.

What is the attitude of the Present Trustees?

By vote of 8 to 1 the nine trustees
representing the nine districts on (date)
passed the following resolution

and the statement is ^{prepared in advance} ~~preparatory~~ ~~to~~
taking formal steps to have a vote
taken on the question of amalgamation

What should ^{be} the attitude of a Trustee?

Some people have expressed the opinion that the duty of the Trustees of a school district ~~was~~ elected to ~~save the Taxpayers~~ ~~at~~ ~~an~~ to keep taxes down at all costs. The eight Trustees who voted for amalgamation and they included all the ^{three} Senecaville trustees and two of the Shaker & Bond & Little Trustees. felt differently, they felt that their first trust was to the cause of education of the children in their districts.

If that is so, then no Trustee in either one of the three districts ought to vote against amalgamation, knowing that the only permanent and equitable method of making it possible to provide more money for the traditional school from the Protestant property owners of the district is by amalgamation and equalization of the distribution of the burden.

What do the large taxpayers have to say
about amalgamation in Senneville and Bon Air?

A. H. Barker W. F. Angus C. B. Bowler E. W. etc
W. S. Fallis - Lewis
have written as follows to J. M. Arthur Currier
quote from their letters.

What do the ^{taxpayers} small all the year round
in Senneville & Bon Air
visitors have to say?

W. S. Fallis, C. B. Bowler, A. H. Barker, W. F. Angus

What is the opinion of a man who
owns property and has no children in
whose education he is interested?

"The development of my property is in
my opinion largely dependent upon the
educational facilities of the district, I shall
get back all the extra taxes I shall
ever be asked to pay many times over
in appreciation value of my land.
if reasonable college school is always
a part class school."

What is the alternative?

There is no alternative - it is inconceivable that affairs should be allowed to get to such a state as to render it necessary for the government to step in and force an amalgamation or worse still force us into the Central School District.

The alternative is to leave "bad" enough alone, which would mean that St Anne and its vicinity will sooner or later die ^{an} unnatural and deserved death as a residential suburb for English Protestant families.

Mac A. Bovey

October 22nd, 1925.

Thomas J. Fisher, Esq.,
57 St. Sulpice Street,
Montreal.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 19th with reference to the administration of Macdonald College High School.

I would be much interested to learn who is your informant. I am glad to be able to tell you that there is not the slightest truth in this report. The children who bring their lunches are given the use of the basement, which is well lighted and heated, and provided with benches. Pupils in some of the upper grades eat their lunches in the classrooms, and during the winter months a hot lunch is provided at a nominal charge through the kindness of the Women's Club of Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

If you are interested you are most welcome to inspect the school at any time.

Yours faithfully,

Wilfrid Bovey.

SAMUEL FISHER (REGD.)

PIPE, FITTINGS, VALVES, TOOLS,
MARINE AND ENGINEERS' SUPPLIES

Sir Arthur Currie

57 ST. SULPICE STREET

Principal

MONTREAL,

Oct 19th 20th

McGill University

Dear Sir I address you as one having official Connection
with Macdonald College St Anne de Belleme

It is reported to me that among the day students
attending Macdonald there are those who come from
a distance, these children bring their lunches with
them, the college authorities according to the report
refuse to let these children eat their lunches on the
School premises, and have provided no place
for them to eat their lunches during meal hours,
the result is that the children have got to go into
into the streets to eat their lunches ~~in~~ rain or shine

This is to say the least a rotten state of affairs,
for the college authorities are treating these children
in a manner that you nor I would treat our dogs

I trust that the authorities at the college
will make immediate amends before the matter
is taken up by the public press

Yours truly

Thomas J. Fisher

MACDONALD COLLEGE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:
STE. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

POST OFFICE:
MACDONALD COLLEGE, QUE., CANADA.

21st October, 1925.

Mrs. M. M. Chesley,
Principal's Secretary,
McGill University,
Montreal, Que.

Dear Mrs. Chesley:-

I am enclosing a letter to Sir Arthur Currie which answers Mr. Thos. J. Fisher's complaint. I shall be glad if you will give it to the Principal when he returns.

If you think it desirable, you can inform Mr. Fisher that there is absolutely no truth in this report.

Faithfully yours,

J. Currie
Principal.

L.

MACDONALD COLLEGE

RAILWAY STATIONS, EXPRESS AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES:
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PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

21st October, 1925.

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

Dear Sir Arthur:-

Your Secretary has given me a letter from Thomas J. Fisher, of 57 St. Sulpice Street, in which he accuses the college authorities of refusing to let the children eat their lunches on the school premises, and of providing no place for them to eat their lunches during meal hours, the result being that the children have to go into the street to eat their lunches, rain or shine. He then goes on to say that "this is a rotten state of affairs, etc."

It is amazing to me how a business man (as I presume Mr. Fisher is) can make such a charge as this on hearsay, and without finding out from the college authorities whether or not there is any foundation in it.

I shall be glad if you will inform him that there is not the slightest particle of truth in this report. The children who bring their lunches are given the use of the basement, which is well lighted and heated, and provided with benches. Pupils in some of the upper grades eat their lunches in the classrooms, and during the winter months a hot lunch is provided at a nominal charge through the kindness of the Women's Club of Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Sir Arthur W. Currie.

21st October, 1925.

- 2 -

Mr. Fisher is welcome to inspect the school, although what his connection, or what his business with it is, is not indicated in his letter.

Further if he knew the locality he would know too that the school is not on the street, but in the middle of the college grounds.

Being a day school, most of the children come from the neighbourhood, the majority going home for their midday meal. Those who come from the neighbouring municipalities, however, bring their lunches.

Faithfully yours,

R. Harrison,
Principal.

L.