

Dawson Papers index established

McGill is fortunate in having very full records of its former principals. William Dawson inherited a great many historical records and during his 38 years as Principal (1855 to 1893) he created a great many more.

Sifting through the 20 cubic feet of Dawson Records is in itself a mammoth task. But an increasing number of professors and students are turning their attention to Dawson Studies, and matters related thereto.

To assist them and to facilitate the work of the History of McGill Project, the Indexation Program has been designed to produce a computer-retrievable Index to the Dawson Papers.

Researchers

Two copies of a Subject Index have been prepared, and one has been deposited in the University Archives and the other is in the History of McGill Project Offices.

Researchers in many fields, such as the history of science or of education or of religion, will find them of great value.

The Index lists some 20,000 entries relating to more than 7,000 items and is contained in five large volumes. The present listing covers the official papers of Sir William, but there are still other collections of a more personal and family nature.

A single complementary volume gives a chronological listing of the items indexed and it is hoped to produce an author-recipient Index of the Letters. Other Indices could be run off to meet specific research needs.

The program, under the direction of Dr S.B. Frost, has been elaborated and executed by Liana Vardi, now a PhD candidate in History, and by John

King, Research Assistant to the History of McGill Project. Liana Vardi has also contributed an introductory Essay on the Dawson Papers Collection. Mark Molik of the University Management Systems Department has given invaluable assistance in the computer programming. Since 1970, John Andreassen, the University Archivist, has been directing the production of Archival Guides to the Dawson Papers and the Index is designed to be used in conjunction with them.

Few historical collections are provided with such excellent research tools and it is hoped to apply the same methodology to the Peterson Papers, and the James Papers, and in due course to other major collections.

Celebrate

To celebrate the 'publication' of the Index, the Chancellor (a great grandson of Sir William), the Principal and those most closely concerned in the production gathered in the Project Office, together with Mrs Lois Winslow-Spragge, a granddaughter of Sir William, who continues to take a very lively interest in the well-being of the University.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Max Bell Foundation have contributed to the cost of the research and Vice Principal W.F. Hirschfeld was present to represent the Faculty, together with the Chairman of the Department of History, Professor Randall.

Enquiries relating to the use of the Index should be made in the first instance to Mr Andreassen at local 5356.

McGill Papers
March 1977

Public Oratory opened at 9:30 each morning. Parties were held each night.

Categories

The events were divided into three categories:

- 1) Persuasive—in which the topic was given out well in advance.
- 2) Extemporaneous—in which a topic was chosen from the general theme "Canada and the World; the Last 100 Years." The Debate teams were allowed 15 minutes preparation. The individual speaker was allowed one hour.
- 3) Impromptu—in which the Debate teams were given five minutes preparation, and the public speaker "must rise to speak as he picks his topic." Creativity, humour and wit were among the qualities hoped for by the judges. Contestants seemed most relaxed during the last of these categories.

Semi-finals and finals were held on Saturday in the McGill Law

Faculty. In the room, University College, London, England opposed Princeton University on the Resolution that "The Age of Virtuosity in Politics is Past". Across the hall, Colgate battled against University of Ottawa over the Resolution that "The Cult of the Common Man is the Cult of Mediocrity." Princeton and Colgate entered the finals two hours later to decide whether or not "Democracy is on Trial." Colgate emerged victorious in opposing the Resolution.

McGill eighth

Princeton ranked second; University College, third; University of Ottawa, fourth. McGill came in eighth. The Best Public Speaker was Everard O'Donnell from Gray's Inn, London, England. Awards were given out the same evening after a get-together at Gertrude's pub in the University Centre.

s' Society Charter

works."

According to student senator Patsy Kirkpatrick, the proposed recommendations contained in the CRSS report could help generate more campus interest in a central student government body, even on the part of the various faculty student societies.

The extent of student input in the report was questioned by student senator Michael Augenstein, provoking an exchange between himself and some CRSS members seated in the visitor's gallery. Stu Budden explained that the entire document was based on viewpoints from students.

CRSS vice chairman Roger Balk said that the contents of the CRSS Majority Report "by and large" originated from student opinion, although the report itself was assembled by McGill-

employed CRSS members last summer when CRSS student members were away.

Rev. Balk made the comments following remarks by CRSS chairman Sam Boskey, who pointed out that Senate was debating a report which had been put together by McGill staff members. He added that the Minority Report had been prepared by students.

The CRSS chairman also maintained that the University administration continues to determine the role and scope of student government, and that Senate should examine whether or not it wants this situation to continue.

"Students still have no freedom to govern their own affairs, and no opportunity to learn from their own mistakes," he said.