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McGILL UNIVERSITY,
MONTREAL.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE
OFFICE OF THE DEAN.

JANUARY
Nineteenth
1 9 2 6.

Augustus S. Knight, Esq., M.D.
Medical Director - Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.,
N E W Y O R K C I T Y.-

Dear Dr. Knight,

I have just returned from California, and find your good letter of January 7th awaiting me.

It was extremely good of you to write me such a nice note, and I quite understand your position. We are more than delighted at the generosity of the Board of Directors in appropriating the money for our survey, and will look forward with a great deal of interest to such work as we can carry out. I hope it will be the means of ever more and more pleasant relations between the Canadian medical work and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

With every good wish for the New Year and renewed thanks for your kindness, believe me

Very cordially yours,

C. J. Martin -
DEAN.

MET 0394

K.C

January 7,1926

Dr.Charles F. Martin
660 Sherbrooke Street W.,
Montreal, Canada

My dear Doctor Martin

For quite a long time I was chagrined at my inability to keep the verbal promise that I made to you when you were here in my office, namely, that I would try to tell you during the following week what our Company was likely to do with reference to the appropriation that was hoped for. I neither forgot nor neglected the matter, but the stone walls that I ran against showed there was absolutely nothing to be said or done at that time. I am very glad to tell you now, however, that the Board of Directors passed a resolution at their meeting yesterday that authorized the Officers of this Company to appropriate $5,000 a year for five years for the proposed survey to be made under the terms and conditions approved by the Medical Division of the Metropolitan.

I have no doubt that you may already have heard about this through the letter that our President wrote to Sir Arthur W. Currie yesterday, but nevertheless I myself feel like having a word with you about it.

With kindest personal regards to you and trusting that you will come to see us whenever you are here in New York, I am,

Yours very truly,

MET 0395

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

PRODUCED S/C/M/Ms

It is suggested that we approach the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University with a proposal that upon the establishment of an adequate Department of Industrial Hygiene in the McGill Medical School the Metropolitan enter into an agreement with McGill to secure for the Company certain services and information relating to the health of industrial workers in Canada.

With the establishment of a Canadian Home Office and the extension of the Company's operations in the Dominion it becomes increasingly important that the Company have accurate knowledge of conditions attending industrial activity in Canada. It is, further, most desirable that the Company's program for the betterment of the health of industrial workers and their families be advanced in Canada where industrial hygiene as a phase of public health work is notably backward.

It would be of great value to the Company to have specific information regarding such matters as:

1. The distribution of industrial establishments, mines and lumbering operations with data concerning the number of employees in each establishment and district.
2. Studies of hazardous processes.
3. Studies of morbidity and mortality in relation to the major industrial pursuits.
4. Studies of extent and character of medical service available in the "unorganized territory" wherein are conducted the great mining and lumbering operations.
5. Observations regarding opportunities for educational work by the Company.

To secure such information directly would be difficult and very expensive. If it could be obtained from a department of industrial hygiene in Canada's leading university in return for a moderate annual fee the Company would undoubtedly benefit. If the Company could incidentally through its relation with the University extend its own influence in the field of public health the benefit would be still greater.

It would mean an adherence to the Company's established policy of utilizing when possible Canadian personnel and operating through Canadian agencies. It would bring the Company and its activities in contact with many highly influential individuals and industrial groups.

Though legal obstacles may stand in the way of a contribution by the Company to an educational institution they are not concerned with the plan proposed. Such a plan involves a definite quid pro quo, payments specifically conditioned upon a commensurate return, the adequacy of such return to be determined by the President or those to whom he may delegate the decision.

PRODUCED ... SUITS

MET 0396

Should the proposal be made by the Company to the University our participation would be vastly more valuable and stimulating in its effect upon Canadian industrial organizations than it would be were such participation to be solicited.

It is accordingly recommended that with proper legal safeguards and in the event of the fulfillment of suitable conditions the Company in consideration of certain services rendered pay to McGill University the sum of five thousand dollars annually during a period of [redacted] years.

WR

Wade Wright.

PRODUCED S/C IS

Nov. 4, 1923.

Dear Doctor Knight:

I do not know whether or not the President is still interested in establsihing some sort of relation with McGill or not. Neither can I recall just when the Ottawa corner-stone laying takes place but if that event is still in the offing it would be a grand time to do the graceful and announce our proposed relations withthe University.

Within the past two weeks or so there have been two important and urgent calls for help from Canadian firms. One is the most active of the big paper companies, from the standpoint of labor relations and one of the very largest. They are finally starting on an extensive reorganization of their whole medical program with periodic annual physicals, at the recommendation of the union employees. This is the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Company. The other outfit is a printing plant near Montreal which is launching a wild scheme to examine everybody in their employ and also the members of the families of employees. Both these groups need close watching and a lot of help. It is work which we can do only with difficulty and great expense and work which a Canadian could do better than we could. On such a job the contemplated department of industrial hygiene at McGill would be able to render most valuable service.

If you think well of mentioning these matters Mr. Bruere could give you all details. As you know I did not pursue the matter of the Met's relations with McGill with Mr. Bruere, letting the whole question rest where it was on Mr. Fiske's visit here. If you wish to secure further information from Mr. Bruere please tell him of the plot at the time of Dr. Martin's visit for he knows nothing of it.

Sincerely yours,

Wade Wright

PROPOSED SIGNING

MET 0398