



"A NOBLE ROSTER":
One Hundred And Fifty Years

Of Law At McGill

Ian C. Pilarczyk



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 **McGill**

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John Durnford, 1997 (FLA)

Dedicated to

Professor Emeritus John
William Durnford,
B.A. '49, B.C.L. '52

The title quotation was taken from the article
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by Maxwell Goldstein, *B.C.L. '82* (*McGill News*, 1932).
The cover photo is of the class of 1932 (*Old McGill*, 1930).

The back cover text was taken from an oath required of
nineteenth-century graduates of the Faculty of Law.

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I.

The Listful Lure
of Legal Lore"

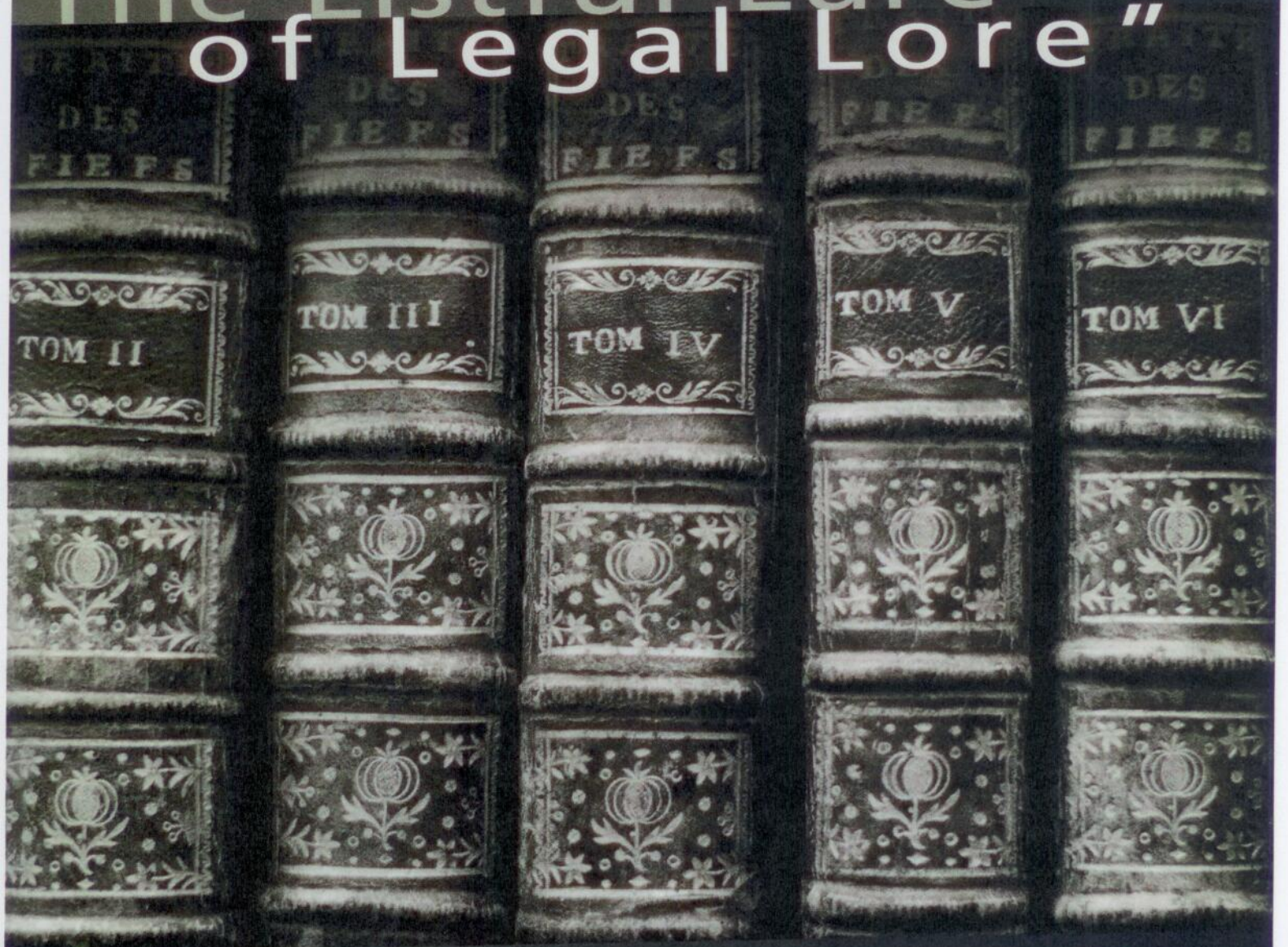


Photo from Peter Marshal Laing Special Collections Room, 1999 (FLA)



Ôtez vos pipes,
crachez vos chiques
et God Save the Queen.

(Old McGill, 1923)

La Faculté de droit de McGill :

To put the origins of McGill University's Faculty of Law into historical perspective, it is perhaps fitting to observe that when the Faculty was in its infancy, a lower court in Montreal was still opened by the sheriff's representative with the solemn invocation: «Ôtez vos pipes, crachez vos chiques et God Save the Queen.» By the time of Canadian Confederation in 1867, the Faculty of Law was already a well-established institution, having produced no fewer than one hundred and ten graduates, among them two eventual Prime Ministers and one Father of Confederation: Sir John Joseph Caldwell Abbott, *B.C.L. '54, D.C.L. '67*, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, *B.C.L. '64, LL.D. '99*, and Thomas d'Arcy McGee, *B.C.L. '61*. In the intervening years the Canadian legal system has evolved in ways never envisioned by the Faculty of Law's founders, and yet the two have been inseparably connected. Over the past century and a half McGill has contributed greatly to the transformation and enrichment of the legal systems of Canada and countless other countries across the globe.

The teaching of law at McGill may have commenced as early as 1829, for there is evidence to suggest that Reverend John Strachan delivered occasional lectures as a Professor of History and Civil Law. While the historical record is murky, it is evident that by September of 1843 when the Faculty of Arts was inaugurated, Vice-Principal William Turnbull Leach had announced the establishment of a regular course of law lectures. In April 1844, a prominent member of the Quebec Bar, William Badgley, *D.C.L. '70*, was appointed a Lecturer in Law at McGill College. Badgley's appointment was due in no small part to the calls of members of the Montreal citizenry for a system of more "practical" education than that afforded by the traditional classically-based curriculum. That same month Badgley was appointed a Circuit Court judge for Montreal, and his academic duties fell by the wayside. After the academic council warned him in February of 1846 that his appointment would be terminated should he not devote greater effort to his teaching duties, Badgley apparently did so, as he was promoted to Professor in March of 1847.

In June of 1848, twenty-three young men who were reading for the Bar and attending an informal series of lectures by Badgley petitioned the University for a course of formal instruction in law and the awarding of a B.C.L. degree. A letter signed by these men as "the students composing the Law Class of McGill College" read, in pertinent part:

We the undersigned Law Students of Montreal, hereby agree to attend a Course of Law Lectures, to be delivered by the Hon. [William] Badgley, Professor of Law at the University of McGill College; We hereby enroll ourselves Members of the Class in accordance with the Resolutions adopted at a Meeting held at the Court House this Nineteenth day of June One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty Eight.

The provenance of this document remains unknown; indeed, this mass matriculation does not coincide with the official records of the University or of the Bar of Montreal. But as these students were to argue, led by Alexander Morris, B.A. '49, B.C.L. '50, M.A. '52, D.C.L. '62, McGill had degree-granting powers and Badgley was officially affiliated with McGill by virtue of being named Professor. Therefore, they felt, they should be formally recognized as students of McGill.

This Faculty of Law at King's College was far from ambitious in scope, consisting solely of a Professor of Law and Jurisprudence, and a member of the Roman Catholic clergy who taught "Rhetoric and *belles lettres*". Nevertheless, it may have served as a rudimentary model for law teaching at McGill. On July 15, 1848, the Board of Governors engrafted Morris and some of his compatriots into the student body, and McGill's formal teaching of law had begun. These students were permitted to reside in the College on the express condition "that Professor Leach would board them". The Board of Governors spelled out the requirements for the granting of a B.C.L. degree as three terms (one year) of study in Arts and six terms (two years) in Law. This was essentially an inversion of King's College programme, which had required seven terms in Arts and three terms in Law, primarily to coincide with the newly-enacted legislation regarding legal education that had been passed in Lower Canada. It was this variance that prompted Dr. Boys to write to Abbott on September 20, 1848 that "the difference of the required qualifications is so great, that the President [of King's College] is of opinion that those who take that degree in your University, could not be admitted...in this [programme]."

150 ans d'histoire

In formulating the initial legal programme at McGill, the administration appears to have sought counsel from another source. An exchange of correspondence between the McGill bursar, John Abbott (father of John J.C. Abbott), and Dr. H. Boys, registrar of King's College in Toronto, reveals that Dr. Boys provided a copy of the printed announcement from 1845 of the Faculty of Law at King's College. In his letter dated June 24, 1848, Dr. Boys wrote:

In reply to your letter of the 16th Inst[ant] I send you our printed statement of particulars respecting students in law which I believe will supply the answers to all your questions. I would only point out that we have but one description of regular students in law—these we call matriculated students, as they must all commence by matriculating in arts, and must keep seven terms in the faculty before they can become students in law—we have irregular students, denominated by us occasional students, who merely attend the law lectures on paying the fee for the course, £1—our lectures in all the faculties are open to the public in the same way on payment of fees for each course—such occasional students not examined on entrance—any respectable person willing to pay the fees and against whom the Professor has no objection to argue, is admitted to attendance....

Under the guidance of William Badgley, a class of twenty-two men began their studies at McGill, paying a fee of £2 per student per term directly to Badgley in lieu of tuition to McGill College (and in lieu of a salary paid to him by McGill). These students followed organized lectures on criminal law, Roman law, international law, legal history, civil law, English government, old French law, and legal bibliography of England, France and Canada. Despite this impressive roster, the lectures appear to have been little more comprehensive than those usually delivered to part-time students by magistrates in their Chambers during this period. In 1850, five members of this class were to receive McGill's first B.C.L. degrees: Christopher C. Abbott (the younger brother of John J.C. Abbott), Brown Chamberlin, William Busby Lambe, Alexander Morris, and Romeo H. Stephens; of these, all but Abbott were signatories of the 1848 petition.

In 1852 a group of Montreal merchants who were intimately involved with McGill College were named Governors of the University of McGill College after McGill's charter was formally amended. The Governors proceeded with the appointment of two additional lecturers, as had been recommended some five years earlier at the time of Badgley's promotion, and began preparation for establishing the Faculty of Law as a separate Faculty.

In the first prospectus of 1853, Dean Badgley proudly announced the formation of the Faculty of Law.

In 1853 Charles Dewey Day became Principal of McGill, and formally established the Faculty of Law. Badgley—recently named *bâtonnier* of the Bar of Montreal—was named Dean, and he was given two colleagues, John Joseph Caldwell Abbott and Frederick William Torrance, *B.C.L.* '56, as Professors, as well as Toussaint Antoine Rodolphe Laflamme, *B.C.L.* '56, *D.C.L.* '73, and Pierre-Richard Lafrenaye, *B.C.L.* '56, as Lecturers. Badgley, Abbott and Torrance were told by the Board of Governors that "their emolument would be the subject of future consideration," meaning that their income would be derived chiefly from students' fees. At the end of the year those fees were supplemented by the payment of £500 from McGill, a practice that was to remain in common usage until the turn of the century.

In the first prospectus of 1853, Dean Badgley proudly announced the formation of the Faculty of Law, stating that the faculty consisted of himself and two professors, "to which such lectureships and aids will be added as may be found necessary for affording liberal and thorough instruction to students in that profession." As recorded in the Faculty of Law minute book for 1853, the curriculum proposal was to consist of Justinian's *Institutes*, the First and Second titles of the *Coutume de Paris* as exposed in the *Commentaire de Ferrière* (in 12 volumes), the *Traité des obligations* of Robert-Joseph Pothier and volume four of William Blackstone's *Commentaries*. To receive the *B.C.L.* degree, students were also required to pass "an Examination before the Professors...as to proficiency in the Latin, Greek and French or English languages" unless they

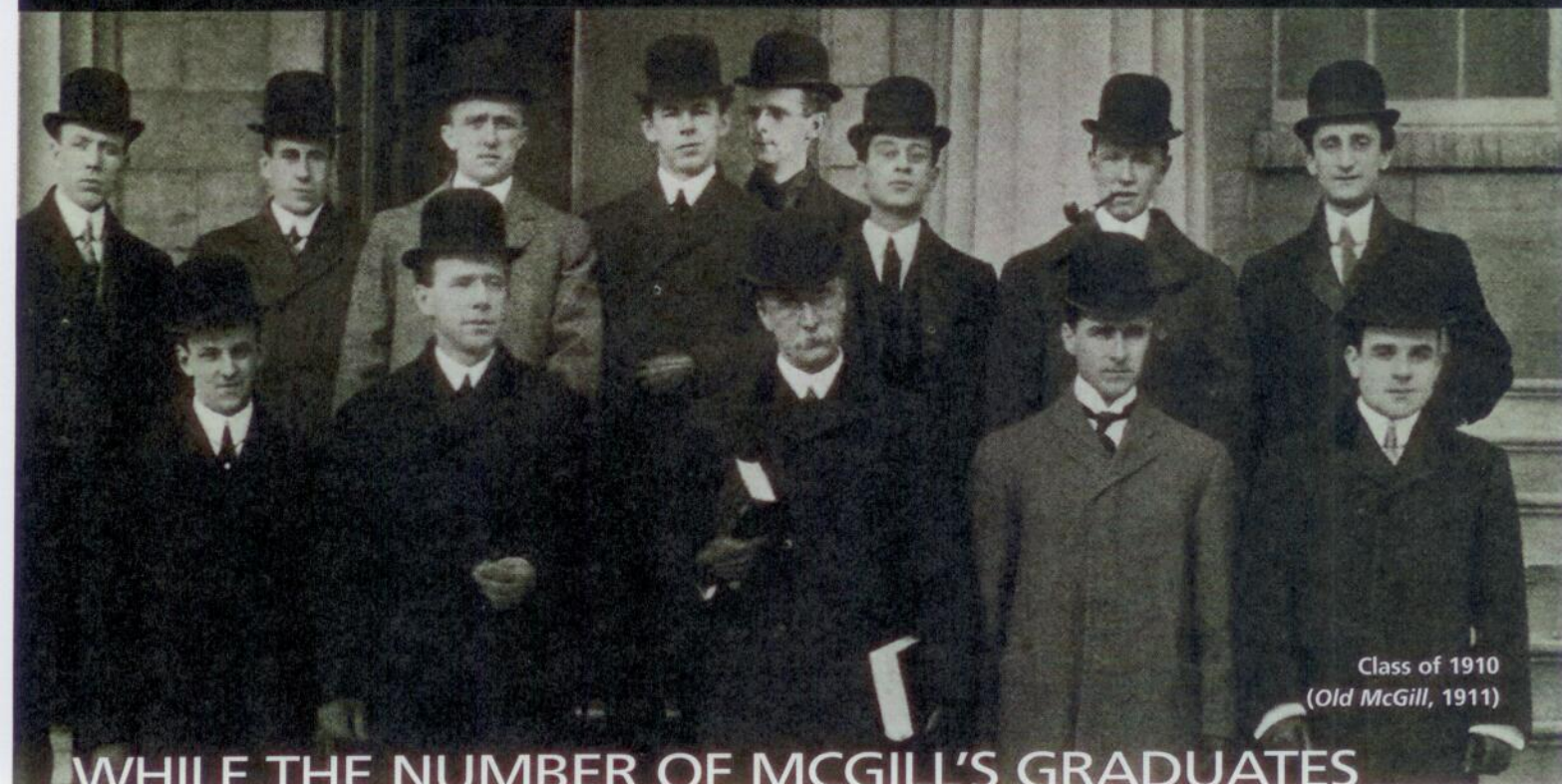
1844
William Badgley est nommé chargé de cours de droit à la Faculté des arts; des cours de droit y sont offerts pour la première fois

1847
William Badgley est promu professeur de droit

With these changes, the origins of the modern-day Faculty of Law were already visible: instruction became fairly systematic and regular, the curriculum was modified, professors began producing legal scholarship, and French-language teaching and examination were undertaken.

were able to produce a certificate showing that they had "passed through a regular course of classical study". An additional requirement was the submission of a thesis "either in Latin, French, or English", although this requirement may not have been instituted in fact until some years later.

While the Faculty of Law thus became a separate entity in 1853, it remained only loosely-connected with the University as a whole. In the early years, lectures were apparently given in Dean Badgley's downtown offices before moving to rented premises at the Molson's Bank on St. James Street. In 1855, Badgley's elevation to the Superior Court of Quebec and other professional responsibilities induced him to resign from the Faculty. Abbott was appointed Dean and Professor of Commercial and Criminal Law, while Torrance was named Professor of Roman and International Law. Laflamme and Lefrenaye were both promoted from Lecturer to Professor, and Justice Thomas Cushing Aylwin joined the Faculty as Professor of Criminal and Constitutional Law. With these changes, the origins of the modern-day Faculty of Law were already visible: instruction became fairly systematic and regular, the curriculum was modified, professors began producing legal scholarship, and French-language teaching and examination were undertaken. Six students comprised the law class of 1855, but the following year nineteen young men enrolled. Abbott introduced a clerical system with prominent Montreal advocates and the curriculum continued to be expanded. The Annual Announcement for 1856 set out the course offerings as follows:



Class of 1910
(Old McGill, 1911)


WHILE THE NUMBER OF MCGILL'S GRADUATES
may have been small, the caliber was extraordinary...

1843
Les premières inscriptions en droit à McGill ont lieu

1853
La Faculté de droit de McGill devient officiellement une faculté distincte; William Badgley est nommé doyen

On Public and Constitutional Law (Aylwin); On Obligations (Abbott); On the Civil Law, the rights of persons under the Roman Law, property in possession, *jus in re* (Torrance); On the Origin and History of the Laws of France, of England, and of Lower Canada (Laflamme); On Commercial Contracts (Abbott); On Legal Bibliography (Lafrenaye); On Criminal Law (Aylwin); On International Law (Torrance); On Leases, Deposits, Sequestrations, Pledges, Suretyships, Compositions, Imprisonment (Lafrenaye).

The Faculty may have begun under promising circumstances, but it would be several decades until it could truthfully be said to thrive. During the period from 1850 to 1860, only thirty-three men received their B.C.L. degrees at McGill, and in 1853 and 1857 there were no graduates at all, although a healthy number of students registered each year for much of this period. Following Confederation, political and other factors adversely impacted on the Faculty of Law. The removal of the capital to Ottawa, the attendant post-Confederation separation of civil and common law traditions, as well as the University's continuing precarious financial condition, all took their toll. The largest single difficulty facing the Faculty, however, was that it could not hope to offer its instructors remuneration comparable to that which they could earn from private practice, and to varying degrees the professors' primary energies continued to be directed towards their practices. Nonetheless, while the number of McGill's graduates may have been small, the caliber was extraordinary, and this "noble roster" included several figures who went on to play a large part in the shaping of the Canadian State. Furthermore, correspondence between Badgley and other interested parties (such as the Bar associations in Boston, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia) shows that the Faculty of Law provided an early model for several other North American law schools.



William Macdonald,
CA. 1870 (MUA)

The limitations inherent in having a professorate consisting of full-time practitioners was one of the main reasons that an early graduate, Gonzalve Doutre, *B.C.L.* '61, *D.C.L.* '73, was a vocal critic of Quebec legal education. Doutre, a brilliant francophone student, graduated at such a young age that he had to wait two years to reach the age of majority before becoming a member of the Bar of Quebec. In the interim, he petitioned the Bar to change "the present type of examination for those aspiring to the study and practice of the profession of lawyers", and drafted a reform bill that became law in 1866. A year later, still strident in his criticism of legal education, Doutre founded a new school of law, the *Institut canadien*. Following a requirement by the Bar that law schools be attached to degree-granting institutions, the *Institut canadien* became affiliated with the Methodist Victoria College in Cobourg, Ontario. By 1871, however, this school had closed, and he and a colleague, William Warren Hastings Kerr, *B.C.L.* '72, joined the Faculty of Law at McGill. Doutre remained a professor for two years, and served thereafter until 1877 as member of the Corporation of McGill University and a part-time law lecturer, while Kerr maintained a much longer affiliation with McGill.

By 1875, the Faculty stood at eight part-time professors. That same year Burnside Hall was sold, and Molson's Bank once again became the headquarters for the Faculty. This may have exacerbated the poor situation,

1855
John J.C. Abbott est nommé doyen

1850
Une commission est mise sur pied pour élaborer le Code civil du Bas-Canada; elle compte parmi ses membres le chancelier Charles Dewey Day

as the instructors seemed to devote even greater amounts of time to their law practices. During the same period, conflicts raged between McGill and the Bar over control of the curriculum, matriculation requirements, and the like. The branch law faculty in Montreal at the *Université Laval* (later to become the law school at the *Université de Montréal*), as well as Bishop's University (which at that time offered law lectures), provided competition for law students that McGill could ill-afford. An economic depression in the early 1880s made law school a less attractive option for young men, who could gain entry into the profession simply by passing the matriculation examination and articling for five years. The clericulture programme was allowed to die out, and the pedagogical tools employed by the professors began to favour lecturing over more active, dialogic forms. As Roderick Macdonald was to write, "[f]or a number of reasons...throughout the late 1870s and early 1880s, the Faculty of Law seemed to be demoralized and largely in disarray."

It was under Kerr's leadership, however, that the Faculty of Law's situation began to improve. Kerr was named Acting Dean from 1876 to 1881, and served as Dean from 1881 to 1888. The earlier part of his tenure was spent struggling, largely unsuccessfully, with the many challenges facing the Faculty. The latter years of his Deanship, however, coincided with a noticeable upturn in the Faculty's prospects. The Faculty returned to Burnside Hall after it was sold to the Fraser Institute, which not only repositioned the Faculty in closer proximity to the University, but also gave its students access to a functioning law library comprised of the private collections bequeathed to McGill by several prominent Montreal jurists. Kerr also instituted important reforms to the curriculum, combined second and third year classes, offered courses in alternate years, took responsibility for teaching both International Law and Roman Law, and ensured that the *D.C.L.* programme remained active.

For a number of reasons...throughout the late 1870s and early 1880s, the Faculty of Law seemed to be demoralized and largely in disarray.

As important as these changes were, however, the Faculty of Law still lacked the resources to provide it with a firm foundation. In 1884 the Faculty received its first generous benefaction, as the family of Justice Samuel Gale provided \$35,000 to endow the Gale Chair of Law. After some controversy in which the professorate proposed that the Chair be occupied by the Dean but the income distributed *pro rata* among the instructors, the Board of Governors ruled that the income should be allocated solely to provide for the Dean's salary. The intention was clear: by providing the Dean with an assured source of income, it was obviously hoped that the appointment would take on the character of a full-time appointment. The Gale Chair of Law, however, was not fully endowed for a number of years, and its financial benefits were therefore not to be fully enjoyed by Kerr during his tenure. Despite the strides made under his Deanship, his larger ambitions for the Faculty were not realized during his lifetime, as he died in 1888. While the Faculty was undoubtedly in better condition than a decade previously, its student enrollment remained low and its finances precarious, and it was unable to attract additional full-time professors.

Mr. N[orman] W. Trenholme...has been offered the permanent professorship in the Law Faculty of McGill University, provided for by the recent donation of Mr. W[illiam] C. M[ac]donald. The emoluments connected with the position are \$4,000 a year, and one of the conditions is that the occupant must retire from active practice of law, and merely act as a consulting barrister. Mr. Trenholme has not yet definitely signified his intention of accepting, but it is generally understood he will do so. All the other professors have resigned in order to make way for any complete reorganization of the Faculty which may be contemplated by the council acting with the permanent professor.

Macdonald's donation did, in fact, allow Trenholme to curtail his legal practice significantly. This period also marked the genesis of McGill's enviable reputation in international law. From the earliest days of the Faculty an interest in this field was evident, as international and comparative law was a logical extension of the intersection between the two major legal systems in Quebec. The appointment of Eugène Lafleur, who taught at McGill from 1890 to 1921 and rose to world-renowned repute as an internationalist

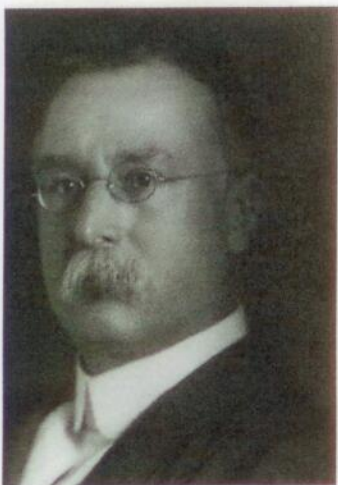
1861
Thomas d'Arcy McGee obtient son diplôme

1864
Wilfrid Laurier prononce son discours d'adieu; création de la médaille d'or Elizabeth Torrance

Kerr's replacement, Norman William Trenholme, *B.A.* '63, *B.C.L.* '65, *M.A.* '67, *D.C.L.* '87, was to serve as Dean for seven years. Despite his teaching and administrative duties he maintained an active legal practice and served, among other things, as Crown Prosecutor for Montreal. While Trenholme's efforts in juggling these various responsibilities might have been commendable, they reflected the reality that full-time appointees were still not the norm. However, in 1890, after calls from Chancellor Donald Smith and Principal William Dawson to establish endowments, the Faculty of Law was to find its savior in the person of Sir William Macdonald. One of the University's most generous benefactors, he presented the Faculty with \$150,000 (later increased to \$200,000) in endowed funds with the expectation that the Dean and Faculty Secretary would, in his words, "devote himself zealously to the management and continuous advancement of the Faculty and the instruction therein". These endowments were to lay the groundwork for a gradual transformation of the Faculty of Law into one based on full-time academic appointments, although it was to be several more decades before this evolution had fully taken place. As the *Montreal Gazette* of April 12, 1890 reported:

of the highest stature, was proof of this commitment. In fact, the professorate of the Faculty in general was reinvigorated with the addition of, among others, notary William de Montmollin Marler, *B.A.* '68, *B.C.L.* '72, *D.C.L.* '97, and the Honourable Charles Doherty, *B.C.L.* '76, *D.C.L.* '93, *LL.D.* '13, both prominent jurists in their own right who were also to fill long-term teaching positions at McGill.

Although Trenholme had maintained his legal practice while serving as Dean—albeit in diminished form—he set the stage for a full-time Deanship to become a reality. That the Faculty of Law needed a full-time Dean to function properly had become an accepted truism, and William Macdonald provided further funds in 1897 to attract a full-time lecturer and administrator. After a one-year stint by Dr. Leonidas Davidson, *B.A.* '63, *B.C.L.* '64, *M.A.* '67, the position of full-time Dean was filled by Frederick Parker Walton, *LL.D.* '15, whose tenure as Dean from 1897 to 1914 was to be among the most influential in the Faculty's history. By accepting this post, Walton became one of the first career law professors in Canada. It was also during this time that Macdonald financed the refurbishment of Dawson Hall (the East Wing of the Arts building),



Frederick P. Walton,
CA. 1900 (MUA)

thus repatriating the Faculty to the college campus. Macdonald's contributions to the Faculty of Law were so central to its development that in 1898, at Walton's behest, the Faculty was renamed the "Faculty of Law (Macdonald Foundation)", a name it was to carry for twenty-three years.

Walton, a distinguished English scholar, demonstrated a passion for Roman and civil law. The author of numerous works, he was to publish the influential treatise, *Scope and Interpretation of the Civil Code of Lower Canada*, in 1907. But equally fervent was his commitment to providing a broad-based yet practical legal education. Walton's vision for the Faculty of Law was ambitious, and in many ways, visionary. He ardently decried the idea that a law school should provide only a narrow, professional education. As he was to state in his 1898 address to McGill University:

I am sure I speak for my colleagues, as well as myself, when I say that we do not intend our Faculty to be a mere coaching establishment to prepare students for the Bar examinations. Of all the shallow and short-sighted views of education, there is surely none more shallow and more contemptible than that which lies in thinking that nothing is worth learning which cannot be put to immediate practical account. The student whose main anxiety is not to learn anything which, as he would express it, will not "pay" is a deplorable spectacle. I do not think at McGill we have many such, but we want to exterminate the species.

Rather, Walton was striving for a school that would "fill our students with generous enthusiasm for learning, with respect for knowledge patiently and painfully won, with large and liberal views of life and its purposes, with the consciousness that they are preparing themselves for a noble profession". In quick succession, Walton convinced the professorate to incorporate greater use of problem-solving methods of instruction and provide more numerous and regular law lectures, and insisted that its instructors would receive rates of pay comparable to other Faculties at McGill. He also took steps to ensure that the Faculty would have access to a formal law library

1872
Gonzalve Doutré publie *Le droit civil canadien*

1878
Pierre-Basile Mignault obtient son diplôme et la médaille d'or Torrance

located within the collections of the Redpath Library. Walton's scholarly output reflected a strong desire to assist the civil law in achieving a state of perfection, and he no doubt believed that it could be elucidated and taught in a scientific and systematic manner. His energies as Dean were devoted to strengthening elements of practical education at McGill though resurrecting regular moot courts, ensuring much greater bilingualism within the curriculum, and lobbying for establishment of a Chair of English Common Law to facilitate comparative study. Not all of his initiatives were successful—for example, the Chair was never established due to opposition from the University's Board of Governors, and student enrollment did not live up to expectations. It may also be said that the Faculty's pedagogical approach never quite achieved the expansive aims publicly espoused by Walton, largely as his goals were in opposition to popular views (namely that of the Bar) regarding legal education in Quebec.

In 1914 Walton accepted the Deanship of the Royal School of Law in Cairo, and participated in the drafting of the Civil Code of Egypt and the reorganization of that country's court system. A scholar by the name of Sir Charles Peers Davidson, B.A. '63, B.C.L. '64, M.A. '67, D.C.L. '75, LL.D. '12 (who went on to serve as Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Quebec) served as Acting Dean until a suitable full-time replacement could be found. McGill, in seeking to fill the Deanship, again opted for a Romanist from outside the Quebec Bar. Principal Sir William Peterson recommended as Professor of Roman Law and Dean the Oxford-trained jurist Robert Warden Lee, D.C.L. '17, who accepted the Deanship in 1915 and served until 1921. Lee was well-positioned to build on Walton's foundation, as he recognized that the curriculum offered by the Faculty was still limited in scope. Lee was perhaps more fortunate than Walton in that his suggestions for curricular revisions were viewed somewhat more favourably. Lee, a comparatist by inclination, fully recognized that the Faculty enjoyed a unique position, as it was an English-language school training its students to practise within a civil system derived from French and Roman sources for property, family, and commercial concerns, but for criminal matters within a common law system that it shared with the other provinces of Canada. He therefore provided an option for students to take the LL.B. degree, either as a means of obtaining a general legal background for those not intending to practise law, or to qualify future lawyers for practise in provinces other than Quebec. An additional year of study enabled the student to gain the B.C.L. degree.

H.A. Smith

succeeded Lee as Vice-Dean of the Faculty, and in many ways shared Lee's progressive vision for the Faculty of Law.



Herbert A. Smith,
CA. 1918 (MUA)

1884

La chaire de droit Gale est créée par la famille de l'honorable Samuel Gale

Sir William Macdonald fait un don de 200 000 \$; la faculté déménage au siège social de l'Institut Fraser, et une bibliothèque de droit distincte est créée

1896

Simultaneous with these and other changes, Lee revised the curriculum for the B.C.L. programme, and instituted a master's degree as an adjunct to the long-established D.C.L. degree programme. Lee was also an avid proponent of a full-time course of study, and much of his energy was spent in arguing that the existing standard of concurrent articling and study was seriously flawed. As he garnered greater success in convincing Bar associations in Quebec and Ontario of the merits of full-time legal education, Lee became correspondingly more confident in his efforts to promote a metamorphosis of McGill into a truly national law Faculty. He outlined plans to change the constituency of the Faculty into full-time scholars who would instruct students who came from across Canada.

With the armistice that ended World War I and the return of large numbers of veterans, student numbers in the Faculty rose precipitously. Some ninety first-year students registered in 1919, and the total number of students rose to one hundred and thirty-five. The following year the registration maintained that level. Encouraged by these signs, Lee wrote to McGill's Principal, Sir Arthur Currie, detailing the changes in the Faculty and stating that it was no longer "a merely provincial institution". Aware that Currie was setting out to raise \$6,000,000 for the University, Lee suggested that \$250,000 would be an appropriate allocation for Law. It was during his Deanship that the Faculty's first two non-decanal but full-time faculty appointments took place, including Herbert Arthur Smith, who accepted the position of Professor of Jurisprudence and Common Law in 1920.

Despite impressive successes on some fronts, Lee's views engendered constant friction. In particular, the addition of a common law component to McGill's curriculum did not endear him to many members of the local Bar or the professorate. Lee might also have been overly-optimistic as to his ability to change the dominant paradigms regarding legal education in Quebec. While he made significant strides in building on some aspects of his vision (as well as that of Walton and Trenholme), his tenure was relatively short. One is obliged to speculate as to what else he could have accomplished had he found the environment more congenial, as Lee left McGill in 1921 to accept the position as Chair of Roman and Dutch Law at Oxford.

However one weighs the successes and disappointments of his Deanship, it is obvious that in the span of a generation the manner in which the Faculty of Law saw its mission had changed markedly. Lee had capitalized on the work of his predecessors, but there were other forces at work, as well. Following in the pioneering footsteps of Annie Macdonald Langstaff, *B.C.L.* '14, the post-World War I period saw a number of women law students enroll at the Faculty. These women, in the words of Frances Douglas, *LL.B.* '23, had "succumbed to the listful lure of legal lore and journeyed to McGill". Their relative numbers might have remained modest, but their presence and participation ensured that there could no longer be any doubt that they had a legitimate place at McGill. Many of these early women graduates went on to have impressive legal careers that brought great honour to their *alma mater*; all of them contributed in some manner to the eventual accessibility of the legal profession to women in Quebec.

Following Lee's departure, Chief Justice Robert Alfred Ernest Greenshields, *B.A.* '83, *B.C.L.* '85, *LL.D.* '29, officially filled the position of Acting Dean from 1921 to 1923. This transition was not a seamless one, as a fruitless and frustrating search had first been made among the ranks of the Quebec Bar for a full-time Dean. Smith himself would have been a qualified candidate for the Deanship, and would no doubt have accepted the post. However, the Principal of McGill, sensitive to political considerations, announced that the position was reserved for a member of the local Bar. For these reasons, it appears that many of the day-to-day administrative details devolved into the hands of Smith, who officially was Vice-Dean. Because he was a full-time appointee and dedicated to the notion of a Faculty that offered an expansive, national education, he was to have an influence that exceeded his formal yet nominal administrative role. It was Smith, for instance, who was remembered by law students during this time as being the *de facto* administrative head of the Faculty, and he certainly appeared to be the driving intellectual force, as well. In many ways Smith shared Lee's progressive vision for the Faculty of Law, calling for full-time appointments and an approach to legal education that transcended merely training lawyers to practise for the local Bar.

1897
Frederick Parker Walton est nommé doyen

Eugène Lafleur est engagé pour le premier poste de professeur de droit comparé 1898

Certainly Smith was the most outspoken advocate of the LL.B. programme at McGill at the time. As he was to write in *Old McGill*, the University's yearbook, in 1924:

When McGill decided to make provision for instruction in the "common law", which is the law of Canada outside this Province, she did so with certain definite aims in view. There was no intention of interfering with the main function of the Faculty, which is the preparation of students for the practice of law in Quebec. That always must remain our primary duty and in the discharge of that duty the common law teachers, no less than their civilian colleagues, are proud to bear a part. When the new venture was made the first motive was to ensure that the Law Faculty, like all the other departments of McGill, should be not merely a provincial, but also a national and Canadian institution. So long as no effort was made to meet the needs of students from other Provinces our Faculty, no matter how well its work was done, could claim no more than a provincial status in the world of learning. Our reputation, like our appeal, was bound to be purely local and limited. It was felt to be unworthy of the dignity and greatness of McGill that any one of her Faculties should be permanently content to remain in such a position, and it was therefore resolved that she should endeavour to render to Canada the same service which for seventy years she had rendered to Quebec.

Smith's support of the dual-degree programme, and his status as a common-law scholar, did not garner him full acceptance in the eyes of some of his colleagues. It was equally clear that the B.C.L. degree remained the preferred degree among McGill's students. Between 1920 and 1926, twenty-four students obtained the degree of LL.B., while one hundred and forty-six received the B.C.L. degree. In 1923 Greenshields was elevated to the position of part-time Dean from that of part-time Acting Dean, a position he held until 1928. However notable his accomplishments as a jurist might have been, Greenshield's official appointment was a triumph of reactionary educational ideals. The curriculum was scaled-back, and the Faculty again spoke of its mission solely in terms of training English-speaking members of the Quebec Bar.

The common law programme was the most visible victim of these changes, as it was terminated in 1924. In 1928 Smith accepted a teaching position at the University of London in International Law, bringing his McGill connection to an end.

While Smith's time at McGill may have been relatively brief, and the results of his efforts to develop the common law component of McGill's curriculum short-lived, he nonetheless left behind a rich legacy. Prior to his departure Smith wrote a paper on legal education, calling for a "comprehensive library, reasonable leisure for study, and where necessary, university assistance in the publication of works which cannot be certain of commercial success", many of the hallmarks of a modern Faculty of Law. Smith's time on faculty further entrenched the notion of the desirability of having full-time academic appointments, and despite setbacks he helped cement a broader view of the role of law schools in legal education. McGill's commitment to these ideals might have ebbed-and-flowed over the years that followed, but the discourse on legal education at McGill remained forever altered. Greenshields himself became a victim, in a manner of speaking, of the heightened expectations of the professorate that had become the norm. Finding the demands on his time too onerous, he resigned from McGill in 1928 and accepted the Chief Justiceship of the Quebec Superior Court.

Percy Ellwood Corbett, *B.A. '13, M.A. '15, D.C.L. '61*, served both as proof of this more expansive pedagogical view, as well as a further catalyst for its development. Corbett joined the Faculty of Law in 1924 and proved to be an internationalist in the finest tradition. He went on to serve as Dean from 1928 to 1936, and thereafter remained on staff until he departed for the United States in 1943. It was during his time as Dean, in 1926, that McGill inaugurated the first full-time course of study in the field of law in Quebec. A gifted and prolific scholar in his own right, Corbett's mark on the Faculty of Law was made indelible by his recruitment of two scholars who were to become among McGill's most accomplished faculty. The first of these students and *protégés* of Corbett was John Humphrey, *B.Com. '25, B.A. '27, B.C.L. '29, Ph.D. '45, LL.D. '76*. Corbett recruited Humphrey to join the Faculty in 1936, and he went on to play an enormously influential

1914
Annie Macdonald Langstaff obtient son diplôme

1915
Robert W. Lee est nommé doyen

role in international law. Appointed Dean in 1945, Humphrey was never to serve in that capacity, as shortly afterwards he was named the first Director of Human Rights for the United Nations. Upon his return to McGill in 1966, Humphrey received a joint appointment in the Faculty of Law and the Department of Political Science and taught until 1994.

It was also Corbett who in 1928 acted on the recommendation of Herbert Smith that he hire Francis Reginald Scott, *B.C.L. '27, LL.D. '67*. Scott, who Smith had described as "unquestionably the best student who has graduated here", had apparently given no prior thought to teaching. Nonetheless, he was intrigued by Corbett's offer once it was tendered and he accepted a faculty appointment that year. Scott, a true Renaissance man, made his mark in many fields. One of the most talented constitutional lawyers and educators of his day, he was not only an impassioned crusader for civil liberties but one of Canada's foremost poets. He served a short stint as Dean from 1961 to 1964, but his primary influence on the Faculty was through his pedagogical contributions of more than forty years, and his role in shaping much of the constitutional law that he imparted so successfully to his students. Scott's legal legacy lives on in several seminal Supreme Court of Canada cases, including *Roncarelli v. Duplessis*, in which he challenged the authoritarian edicts of Premier Maurice Duplessis of Quebec; and *Brodie v. The Queen*, in which he fought against the censorship of *Lady's Chatterley's Lover*.

While luminaries such as Humphrey and Scott were to have a profound impact on the state of legal education in Canada, the extent of their influence was not to surface fully for some years. Corbett himself appeared to have become disillusioned by the narrow concerns of the local Bar, and his connection with the Faculty grew progressively more tenuous until he departed in 1943 for Yale. Corbett's successor as Dean, Charles Stuart Lemesurier, *B.A. '09, B.C.L. '12*, served from 1936 to 1949. While he might have been hampered by both the Great Depression and the advent of World War II—as well as public clashes between more conservative members of the Board of Governors and political "radicals" like Scott-Lemesurier's tenure largely preserved the *status quo*. A full-time professor, he nonetheless saw his primary loyalty as residing with the Bar, and he devoted his energies neither to scholarly pursuits

nor to developing a more progressive form of legal education. It was not until the latter years of his tenure (the post-War years) that significant change occurred. Swelled by the ranks of returning servicemen, the Faculty grew dramatically in size, and course offerings were expanded. Lemesurier had hoped to retire in 1946, but Humphrey's departure for the United Nations prevented him from doing so; Scott apparently was not a candidate due to the unacceptability of his leftist political views. Lemesurier, therefore, reluctantly served out another three years as Dean.

In 1948 McGill's Faculty of Law celebrated its centennial, beginning with a special convocation ceremony that involved members of the McGill community as well as the Quebec Bar, for—as explained in the programme for that event—"the close relationship that has always existed and must exist between law teaching and law practice renders it fitting that the Centennial of the Law Faculty should be celebrated jointly by the University and the members of the legal profession in Canada." During the ceremony, the President of the Canadian Bar Association as well as the Chief Justice of New Jersey received the degree of Doctor of Civil Law, *honora causa*. It was shortly after this centennial that the Faculty of Law went through a fairly-rapid succession of Deans. Gerald Fauteux, LL.D. '55, was named Dean in 1949 but shortly afterwards was named to the Supreme Court of Canada. Arthur Sydney Bruneau, B.C.L. '17, who had served as Mayor of Westmount, replaced Fauteux in 1950 before his death a short time later. From 1950 to 1960 William C. J. Meredith served as Dean of the Faculty of Law. A *rapprochement* of sorts having been reached between the Bar and universities over the nature of the Bar requirements, the Faculty settled into a more comfortable period. A new home in the form of Chancellor Day Hall, and the establishment of the Institute of International Air Law (subsequently the Institute of Air and Space Law) as well as the *McGill Law Journal*, were all signs of a gradual expansion in the Faculty's ambitions, and international and comparative course offerings were added. McGill professors, such as Paul-André Crépeau who was recruited from the *Université de Montréal* during this period, led the way in producing first-rate Canadian legal scholarship, a commodity in relatively short supply prior to the pre-World War II period.

1922 Les ouvrages qui composent la bibliothèque de droit sont assemblés dans une collection départementale distincte

1924 McGill abandonne le programme de common law

Cohen also recognized that the observations of Lee and Smith several decades earlier had retained their validity: McGill was, indeed, uniquely positioned to provide a bijuridical course of study.

It was also during those post-World War II years that another prominent legal scholar had appeared at McGill: Maxwell Cohen, LL.D. '94. Cohen had a varied and highly-visible legal career, serving on numerous international commissions and agencies, and as a judge *ad hoc* on the International Court of Justice. He was also deeply committed to legal education reform, and he left behind his permanent imprint on McGill due to his achievements as Acting Dean from 1960 to 1961 and Dean from 1964 to 1969. Cohen had been instrumental in the formation of the Institute of Air and Space Law in 1951, as well as the Institute of Comparative Law in 1966. These institutes allowed McGill to develop a vibrant programme of graduate study, which today is among the largest and most international of any school of law. It was under his tenure that New Chancellor Day Hall was constructed, which radically changed the physical plant of the Faculty. Cohen also recognized that the observations of Lee and Smith several decades earlier had retained their validity: McGill was, indeed, uniquely positioned to provide a bijuridical course of study. In 1968 the dual-degree National Programme was launched, which came to serve as one of McGill's hallmarks for thirty years. The Faculty also asserted its influence over the civil law of Quebec when Crépeau took up the Presidency of the Civil Code Revision Office, assisted by Professor Yves Caron and many others. Those developments were all mutually symbiotic and fundamentally shaped the identity of the Faculty of Law for the next thirty years.

John William Durnford, B.A. '49, B.C.L. '52, was to serve as Dean from 1969 to 1974. Hired in 1958 to teach civil law, Durnford had been a practitioner in Montreal for a relatively short period before accepting a faculty appointment. One of the most important developments during his tenure—and indeed one of the most significant elements in the modern Faculty of Law—was the formation of the first legal aid clinic in Quebec, established by a number of McGill students and professors. While its creation in 1973 was not without some controversy, clinics remained a well-entrenched aspect of McGill's legal education, and today many students participate in a variety of clinical activities in different locations throughout Montreal and its environs.

While it is too early to measure the full impact of the Faculty's recent Deanships, it may be said that the Faculty of Law has blossomed as a research institution during the past several decades. John Elms Chalmers Brierley, B.C.L. '59, was one of the longest-serving Deans of the Faculty of Law, acting in that capacity from 1974 to 1984 (except for a sabbatical in 1979-1980). In 1975 the *Annals of Air and Space Law* was established, and quickly grew to become a world-renowned resource on this field of law as well as a useful extension of the activities of the Institute of Air and Space Law. The year 1977 saw the creation of yet another multi-disciplinary institute, the Centre for Research in Private and Comparative Law, which promotes scholarship in civil law, comparative private law and comparative health law. It was also during this decade that the Faculty celebrated the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of its formal foundation. In honour of that occasion, alumni contributed a number of entrance scholarships and other endowed funds.

The 1980s were to prove generally less conducive to major advances based on government support. Changes in funding imposed by the Ministry of Education, underfunding relative to other Quebec institutions, and accumulated University debt all proved to be onerous burdens. Brierley and his successors, Roderick Alexander Macdonald (1984-1989) and Yves-Marie Morissette (1989-1994), were to devote much of their energies to sustaining the Faculty of Law during the years of budget cuts that defined much of McGill University's experience during this decade. A hallmark of Macdonald's Deanship was the renewal of the professorate, with many young and energetic scholars joining McGill. Furthermore, during this period two new endowed professorships were created—the Peter M. Laing and F.R. Scott Chairs—and a graduate concentration in International Business Law was established within the Institute of Comparative Law.

The mid-1990s and beyond were even less hospitable to university budgets, as provincial and federal governments imposed draconian cuts to education. The generosity of alumni and University supporters has proved to be even more indispensable in light of these constraints. Under Morissette's tenure, which coincided with the commencement of McGill's capital campaign, the "Twenty-First Century Fund", the campaign for a new law library was begun. Graduate studies were also reinvigorated, with more stringent admission standards, revamped curricula, and added focus on areas such as regulated industries. As part of this heightened sense of "identity" for McGill's graduate

1926
McGill met en place le premier cours de droit à plein temps au Québec

Percy Ellwood Corbett est nommé doyen; F.R. Scott se joint à l'équipe des professeurs de la faculté

programmes, they were also moved to new facilities dedicated exclusively to the Institute of Comparative Law and the Institute of Air and Space Law (as well as the *McGill Law Journal*). Many major works were published, including the *Private Law Dictionary* and *Dictionnaire de droit privé*, and McGill hosted the 1990 Congress of the International Academy of Comparative Law.

One of these major undertakings—the capital campaign for a new law library—reached fruition during the Deanship of Stephen J. Toope, B.C.L. '83, LL.B. '83. The inauguration of the Nahum Gelber Law Library in September 1998 ushered in a new phase in McGill's physical resources. Unique to major construction projects at McGill, student consultation played an integral part in the overall planning and design of the new library, and students lent generous financial support to its construction. A year later the Faculty of Law ushered in a new integrated curriculum, replacing the existing National Programme with a unified four-year (or three year accelerated) programme of study where the common law and civil law traditions are examined side-by-side. This modified trans-systemic programme was designed to allow for a much more in-depth analysis of these two major legal systems, and its timing could not be more opportune.

Thus, a century and a half after the commencement of legal education at McGill, the Faculty of Law continues to engage in an on-going process of self-scrutiny and reinvention, while simultaneously remaining deeply dedicated to a truly global understanding of the law. This devotion to bijuridicalism and internationalism imposes challenges and demands unique to McGill's Faculty of Law, but also offers incomparable opportunities and rewards. Despite the changes of one hundred and fifty years—and unforeseeable changes still to come—the names of McGill's alumni and faculty continue, and will continue, to constitute "a noble roster".

Despite the changes of one hundred and fifty years—and unforeseeable changes still to come—the names of McGill's alumni and faculty continue, and will continue, to constitute "a noble roster".

Comparative Profiles

1998 - 1999

Doyen:	Stephen J. Toope, B.C.L. '83, LL.B. '83
Diplômes de premier cycle offerts:	B.C.L. et LL.B. (trois années ou programme national de quatre ans)
Localisation:	Old et New Chancellor Day Hall; Bibliothèque de droit Nahum Gelber; 3674/3690 Peel (Angus-McIntyre House); 3647 Peel (J.K.L. Ross House); 3661 Peel (Macarow House); et 1110 avenue des Pins ouest (Lady Meredith House)
Corps professoral:	37 professeurs et 26 chargés de cours
Taille de la bibliothèque:	226 000+ volumes
Cours en première année de B.C.L.:	Droit des biens I (droit civil); Droit constitutionnel; Droit pénal; Fondements du droit canadien; Recherche juridique et rédaction (droit civil); Cours d'obligations I & II
Cours en première année de LL.B.:	Droit des biens IA (common law); Droit constitutionnel; Contrats IA ; Droit pénal; Fondements du droit canadien; Recherche juridique et rédaction (common law) ; Responsabilité délictuelle IA

1942
La Faculté de droit déménage au Arthur Purvis Memorial Hall

1946
John Humphrey est le premier directeur de la Division des droits de l'homme de l'Organisation des Nations Unies

Cours offerts:	80+
Inscriptions en premier cycle:	304 hommes et 301 femmes; 605 au total
Frais de scolarité:	\$4134.15 par session (étudiants internationaux); \$1584.15 par session (étudiants canadiens non québécois); \$834.15 par session (étudiants québécois)
Note historique:	La bibliothèque Nahum Gelber ouvre ses portes; le programme avec B.C.L. / LL.B. intégré est mis en place pour l'année scolaire 1999-2000 avec les cours obligatoires de première année suivants: Droit constitutionnel; Fondements du droit canadien; Droit civil des biens; Obligations contractuelles; Obligations extra-contractuelles/torts; Introduction à la recherche juridique; et un cours complémentaire (au choix: Processus administratif, Droit pénal, Droit de la famille, ou Droit international public)

1973 - 1974

Dean:	John E.C. Brierley, B.C.L. '59
Undergraduate Degrees Offered:	B.C.L. and LL.B. (three years, or four-year National Programme)
Location:	Old and New Chancellor Day Hall
Faculty Size:	25 professors and 40 sessional lecturers
Library Size:	80,000+ volumes
First year B.C.L. Classes:	Foundations of Canadian Law; Obligations I; Property I; Property II; Constitutional Law I; Criminal Law and Procedure I; Evidence and Procedure I; Mooting I; Tutorials I
First year LL.B. Classes:	Foundations of Canadian Law; Contracts I; Torts I; Property I; Property II; Constitutional Law I; Criminal Law and Procedure I; Mooting I; Tutorials I
Courses Offered:	70+
Undergraduate Registration:	382 men and 103 women; 485 total
Fees:	\$317.50 per session
Notes of interest:	Twenty year-old graduate Claude A. Lachance, B.C.L. '74, became the youngest elected Member of Parliament in Canadian history

La Faculté de droit célèbre ses cent ans d'existence

Le doyen Gérald Fateux est nommé à la Cour suprême du Canada

1948 - 1949

Doyen:	C. Stuart LeMesurier, B.A. '09, B.C.L. '12
Diplômes de premier cycle offerts:	B.C.L. (programme en trois ans)
Localisation:	Arthur Purvis Memorial Hall
Corps professoral:	4 professeurs et 9 chargés de cours
Taille de la bibliothèque:	25,000+ volumes
Cours en première année:	Droit romain; Droit civil; Droit pénal; Histoire du droit; Droit constitutionnel; Introduction au droit et à la théorie du droit
Cours offerts:	25+
Inscriptions en premier cycle:	208 hommes et 11 femmes; 219 au total (122 d'entre eux étaient des vétérans de la seconde guerre mondiale)
Frais de scolarité:	\$275 par session
Note historique:	Le Doyen Gérald Fauteux est nommé à la Cour suprême du Canada ; le programme d'étude en quatre ans est mis en place lors de l'année académique 1949-1950

1923 - 1924

Dean:	Robert A.E. Greenshields, B.A. '83, B.C.L. '85, LL.D. '29
Undergraduate Degrees Offered:	B.C.L and LL.B. (three year programme)
Location:	East Wing of Arts building
Faculty Size:	7 professors and 8 lecturers
Library Size:	7,500+ volumes
First Year B.C.L. Classes:	Roman Law; Jurisprudence and Comparative Law; Immovable Property; Obligations; Law of Persons; Criminal Law and Procedure; Civil Procedure; Legal History; Commercial Law
First Year LL.B. Classes:	Roman Law; Jurisprudence and Comparative Law; Real Property; Contracts; Torts; Criminal Law and Procedure; Legal History (British and Canadian); Law of Persons; Commercial Law
Courses Offered:	50+
Undergraduate Registration:	74 men and 2 women; 76 total
Fees:	\$150 per session
Notes of Interest:	Elizabeth C. Monk, B.A. '19, B.C.L. '23, LL.D. '75, graduates with the Elizabeth Torrance gold medal, the Montreal Bar prize, and the Rowat scholarship for proficiency in civil law

La Faculté de droit déménage au Old Chancellor Day Hall

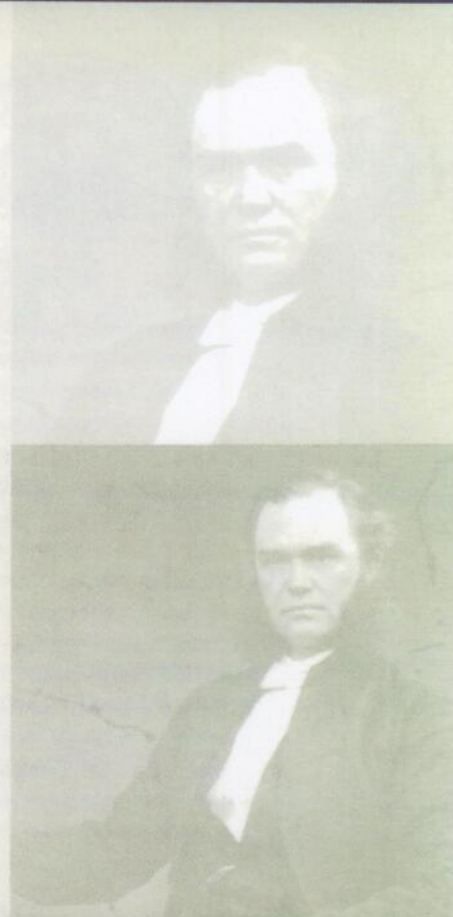
Création de l'Institut du droit aérien international (devenu depuis l'Institut de droit aérien et spatial);
fondation du McGill Law Journal

1898 - 1899

Doyen:	Frederick P. Walton, LL.D. '15
Diplômes de premier cycle offerts:	B.C.L. (programme en trois ans)
Localisation:	Institut Fraser, Burnside Hall
Corps professoral:	12 professeurs et 3 chargés de cours
Taille de la bibliothèque:	1,100+ volumes
Cours obligatoires en première année:	Droit romain; Histoire du droit; Droit des personnes; Droit de la propriété immobilière; Droit des obligations; Droit des successions <i>ab intestate</i> et testamentaires; Règles élémentaires de procédure
Cours offerts:	17
Inscriptions en premier cycle:	67 hommes
Frais de scolarité:	\$52 par session
Note historique:	Sir Wilfrid Laurier, B.C.L. '64, LL.D. '99, se voit décerner un doctorat honorifique <i>in absentia</i> ; la Faculté de droit est rebaptisée «Faculté de droit (Fondation Macdonald)» en témoignage de reconnaissance envers la générosité de Sir William Macdonald

1873 - 1874

Dean:	John J.C. Abbott, B.C.L. '54, D.C.L. '67
Undergraduate Degrees Offered:	B.C.L. (three year programme, or two years if student matriculated in third year of his legal indenture)
Location:	Molson's Bank, St. James Street
Faculty Size:	8 professors and 1 lecturer
Library Size:	N/A
Required first year classes:	Legal History; Civil Law; Roman Law; Civil and Commercial Law; Judicial Logic and Professional Etiquette
Courses offered:	24
Undergraduate Registration:	42 men
Fees:	\$20.00 per session
Notes of Interest:	Lecturers connected with the Faculty of Law included an Instructor in Elocution and an Instructor in Gymnastics



1957
Donation de la collection Wainwright de droit civil à la Faculté de droit

1966
Création de l'Institut de droit comparé et des droits étrangers (devenu l'Institut du droit comparé)

1856 - 1857

(première année pour laquelle ce type d'information est disponible)

Doyen:	John J.C. Abbott, B.C.L. '54, D.C.L. '67
Diplômes de premier cycle offerts:	B.C.L. (Programme en trois années, ou en deux ans si l'étudiant a déjà accompli deux années d'apprentissage juridique)
Localisation:	Banque Molson, rue Saint-James
Corps professoral:	5 professeurs
Taille de la bibliothèque:	Aucune
Cours obligatoires en première année:	Droit public et constitutionnel; Droit des obligations; Droit civil; Histoire du droit français, anglais et du Bas-Canada; Droit de la propriété immobilière et Droit coutumier
Cours offerts:	10
Inscriptions en premier cycle:	19 hommes
Frais de scolarité:	£3 10s. par année
Note historique:	Accomplissement de la restructuration majeure du système judiciaire du Bas-Canada; pas d'obtention de diplômes de la Faculté cette année-là



Regulations of the Faculty of Law, 1854-1855:

- 1st. This Faculty affords a full course of legal education for Students intended for the Bar of Lower Canada. The course of instruction will embrace the various branches of Public, Civil and Common Law, with occasional illustrations of Foreign Jurisprudence in connection with that in force here.
- 2nd. The Students require a three year course of study in which will be comprised instruction in the Public and Constitutional Law of the Province, the Criminal Law and the Law of Tenure and Real Estate, in the Civil Law and its connection with our Jurisprudence and in the Law of Contracts and its incidents generally and the practice of the Courts.
- 3rd. Students may enter the Class at any stage of their professional studies, but for their own advantage and improvement they should enter at the beginning rather than at a later period.
- 4th. Instruction will be given by recitations, examinations, and oral lectures and expositions, daily, during the terms, and questions for discussion will be occasionally submitted to the students to be decided by the Professor or Lecturers.
- 5th. Students who have pursued their studies in the Law Class for three years, and have passed a satisfactory examination, will be entitled, upon the Certificate and recommendation of the Law Faculty and on payment of all dues to the College, to the Degree of Bachelor of Laws. It is also, however, provided by the Statutes that any articled student in the fourth year of his study under articles shall be entitled to the Degree after two years attendance in the Law Class, after satisfactory examination, &c., as above.
- 6th. Applications for admission to be made to J.J.C. Abbott, Esq., Lecturer, from whom information of the particulars of study, and of fees and attendances may be obtained.

1967
Inauguration du New Chancellor Day Hall

1968
Création du Programme national



William Badgley,
CA. 1855 (MUA)

"Report of the Dean of the Faculty of Law" (*Montreal Gazette*, May 3, 1855)

Mr. Badgley said, that it was his duty as Dean of the [F]aculty of [L]aw to report the state of the Faculty, since last convocation. It will be perceived that the number of graduates is small, which probably the Assembly might consider would be no public loss, inasmuch as the profession was not a general favorite. It would, however, be borne in mind, that the profession of the law was really at the base of civil society, and that it was from no want of appreciation of its advantages, that the number of students had not considerably increased during the past year. The state of the profession in all countries afforded the strongest indications of the prosperous condition of the community, and it could scarcely be anticipated that young men of ardent temperaments and active minds would be content to settle down to the drudgery of a lawyer's office, without any immediate pecuniary result for several years, when commerce and other profitable pursuits, even that of the sister science of medicine, offered tangible advantages, at once available. In this, as in every new country, the necessities of life press so closely upon the advancing state of society, that the profession of the law is sought chiefly by those, whose tastes and inclinations are of a studious, and persevering character, or who anticipate the honors of forensic or political life. The classes have been continued by the lecturers, Mr. [John J.C.] Abbott, *B.C.L.* '54, *D.C.L.* '67, and Mr. [Frederick] Torrance, *B.C.L.* '56, with the usual intelligence and attention; the commercial law,

in its several branches, of Agency, Bailments, Partnerships, Notes and Bills has been carefully explained by the former, whilst the latter has exemplified the system of the Roman Law with peculiar care and talent. It may be sufficient to observe, in conclusion, every attention will be given to the instruction of the peculiar branch entrusted to the [F]aculty of [L]aw, and that it might be hoped at no distant period, it would reach the same eminence in McGill College, as had been attained by the [F]aculty of Medicine.

"Characteristics of this Faculty"

(*McGill Fortnightly*, December 17, 1896 & January 7, 1897)



(*Old McGill*, 1908)

I. Modesty

The truly great are modest. Their over-powering superiority, their acknowledged supremacy, their unquestioned merit create it, foster it, prove it. And so the learned man, the man who is truly great, is recognized by his quiet demeanour, his retiring habits, his unobtrusive appearance. This is why Law, the most ancient, the most honourable, the most exclusive Faculty of this University is unobtrusive, is quiet, is retiring. Its meetings are models of gentleness, sobriety, unselfishness. If one attempts pomposity, he is frowned upon. A man who speaks of his achievements, is shunned. Who tells of his ambition, is derided....[T]he man who addresses the meeting in a low voice, in an inaudible tone, who cannot be heard by the Chairman, is truly modest; is truly a law student.

II. Precocity

To aspire to learning, is commendable; to be learned, is to be great; to look learned, is omnipotence. To this end, do all law students shave the upper lip; wear abnormal collars; plaster down their hair. To carry one book is common-place; to carry ponderous calf-bound tomes, is the privilege of the law student, and of him only. Again, an abstracted air, a lowered head, a downcast eye, all are small traits of this glorious Faculty....On the street, with feverish step, careworn face, thoughtful brow, you encounter him. To carry bundles of papers, is his ambition; to carry them conspicuously, is his care; but to carry fat records with big red seals, is his contentment. Everywhere and at all times does the precocity of the law student dazzle, astound, stagger the quiet citizen, the well known character, the staid policeman....

1073
Constitution par des étudiants et des professeurs de droit de McGill du premier service d'aide juridique du Québec; début des conférences Wainwright Memorial

Extrait du discours d'adieu

en 1860, de Désiré Girouard, B.C.L. '60, D.C.L. '74

Excerpt from the Valedictory Speech of 1860

by Désiré Girouard, B.C.L. '60, D.C.L. '74

Le titre de cette lecture étonne peut-être plus d'un des auditeurs de cette honorable assemblée. Rarement les matières de droit sourient à l'imagination, et les dispositions des dames pour tout ce qui touche, ou a rapport, même de loin, à la jurisprudence, ne sont pas non plus équivoques. Vous les verrez bien se plaire à faire en entendre poésie, musique, éloquence, histoire, et que sais-je encore? Mais chose remarquable! Le Droit ne paraît avoir mérité ni leur sympathie, ni leur attention; et si, quoique bien innocemment, il arrive en leur présence d'amener ces matières sur le tapis, sans plus de formalité, elles les relèquent impitoyablement dans les bureaux poudreux de la petite rue St. Jacques ou de la rue St. Vincent. Aussi, en choisissant le sujet de cet entretien, il m'a semblé d'avance, Mesdames, vous entendre vous récrier contre un choix aussi malheureux, et demander qu'à l'instant l'on renvoie son auteur sur les bancs de la Faculté. Cette manière de voir et de priser la science du Droit, cette science divine, cette science par excellence, cette science poétique, comme disent quelques-uns de ses plus zélés admirateurs, peut tout d'abord paraître singulière et étrange. Cependant tous seront forcés de convenir qu'il n'y a là que du bon sens et de la justice, et un tout petit coup d'oeil sur l'état de nos lois, qui certes n'est par charmant, suffira pour le prouver; ensuite nous hâtant de sortir du domaine du droit, nous terminerons par quelques mots sur la Faculté de Droit de cette Université.

....
...Bientôt ils conviendront que rien n'est plus difficile que l'étude du Droit au Canada, parce qu'en effet aucune connaissance n'est plus difficile à acquérir que celle du Droit canadien. À la vue des énormes in-folios qui font gémir les tablettes de nos bibliothèques, en présence de cet amas de rapports de cours et de ces compilations de lois amendées, l'on recule d'abord d'effroi et de découragement;

mais si, reprenant courage, l'on promène ses regards sur tous ces volumes, que voit-on? Ici, un ancien auteur français ou un arrêtiŕiste dont la doctrine ou la dŕcision est souvent basŕe sur des lois alors en force en France, mais sans application au Canada. Lŕ, de longs commentaires sur des ordonnances franŕaises non enregistrŕes ou abrogŕes par nos statuts, et n'ayant par consŕquent aucune autoritŕ dans nos tribunaux. D'un cŕtŕ, la masse des autoritŕs des cours d'Angleterre et des Œtats-Unis, consignŕes dans les Rapports, Compendiums, Dictionnaires et Digestes. D'un autre cŕtŕ, le Code Napolŕon, entourŕ de son brillant cortŕge de Traitŕs, Revues, Rŕpertoires et Journaux de Jurisprudence. Ailleurs, les Lois Romaines, comprenant la Loi des douze Tables, les Œdits des Prŕteurs, les opinions des Jurisconsultes, les Constitutions des Empereurs et enfin les Nouvelles, Codes et Instituts de Justinien. Plus loin, les Œdits, Ordonnances et Jugements du Conseil Supŕrieur de Quŕbec, les Dŕcisions de nos tribunaux, et par dessus tout cela la collection complŕte des Actes et Statuts du Bas-Canada et du Canada. Et c'est ŕ ces sources diverses, c'est au milieu de cette confusion et de cette multiplicitŕ d'auteurs que le *lŕgiste* canadien doit aller chercher la solution du problŕme qu'il poursuit, la rŕgle qui rŕgit le Bas-Canada. Aussi que de diffŕrence dans les conclusions mŕmes les plus ŕclairŕes! Que de divergence dans les opinions! Que d'opposition dans les doctrines sur les points les plus importants et les plus essentiels du Droit! Nous pourrions citer mille exemples pour prouver cette avancŕe; mais un seul suffira.

....
...Maintenant que va faire l'ŕtudiant, le jeune ŕtudiant qui n'a pas encore balbutiŕ la langue de nos statuts? Que va-t-il devenir dans cette route dont il ne voit ni le commencement ni la fin, et oŕ les plus compŕtents se dirigent en sens si opposŕs? Qui donc viendra ŕ son secours? Qui guidera ses premiers pas chancelants? Qui le conduira par toutes les sources de nos lois, par toutes les phases qu'a parcouru le Droit canadien? Qui en un mot le formera ŕ ce grand art, que l'on appelle l'Art du Droit? Ce seront, Mesdames et Messieurs, ce seront les ŕcoles de Droit; ce seront les Universitŕs; ce sera la Facultŕ de Droit de l'Universitŕ McGill. C'est elle qui dans les leŕons de son Professeur d'Histoire et de Bibliographie du Droit lui fournira le guide sŕr dont il a un si grand besoin, lui enseignera les diverses parties de notre droit, les auteurs qu'il doit consulter, les livres qu'il doit ŕtudier. C'est elle qui par son Professeur de Droit Romain lui assignera la source premiŕre de la plupart de nos institutions de droit civil, l'initiera aux premiers principes des conventions

1975
Crŕation des *Annales de droit aŕrien et spatial*

1977
Crŕation de la mŕdaille d'or Aimŕ Geoffrion; fondation du Centre de recherche en droit privŕ et comparŕ

et l'introduira ŕ tout ce que le monde lŕgal possŕde de plus auguste et de plus magnifique. C'est elle qui par son Professeur de Droit Coutumier lui fera connaŕtre les rŕgles qui s'appliquent ŕ la famille et ŕ la propriŕtŕ, et lui fera admirer et aimer les oeuvres de ce jurisconsulte immortel, qui a nom, Pothier. C'est elle encore qui dans les leŕons de son Professeur de Droit Commercial l'instruira dans cette partie du droit la plus importante et la plus vaste aujourd'hui, qui rŕgle les rapports de citoyens ŕ citoyens et les diverses opŕrations et branches du commerce, le familiarisera avec les grands noms de Lord Mansfield, Lord Tenterden, Lord Elden, Dr. Story, et de tant d'autres savants Juges modernes de l'Angleterre et des Œtats-Unis. C'est elle pour tout dire cette Facultŕ de Droit de l'Universitŕ McGill, qui par son cours rŕguliere et complŕte de lectures mettra l'ŕtudiant dans la voie de la science, et ŕ mŕme de se rendre digne de la belle profession ŕ laquelle il aspire, et capable d'ŕtre utile ŕ ses concitoyens et ŕ sa patrie.

Ce ne peut donc ŕtre qu'avec regret que nous, ŕtudiants de troisiŕme annŕe, voyons arriver le moment oŕ il nous faut nous ŕloigner de la maison ŕ laquelle nous sommes tant redevables et dire un dernier adieu ŕ nos dŕvouŕs Professeurs et ŕ nos bien aimŕs condisciples. Veuillez donc, Messieurs nos Professeurs, recevoir l'expression de notre reconnaissance la plus profonde pour les inapprŕciables services que vous nous avez rendus, pour les savantes leŕons que vous avez bien voulu ŕlaborer pour notre avancement dans la science du Droit, et pour tous les gŕnŕeux sacrifices que vous vous ŕtes imposŕs dans notre intŕrŕt; veuillez aussi nous pardonner toutes nos nŕgligences et nos irrŕgularitŕs, si ordinaires ŕ la jeunesse; et lorsqu'un jour, appelŕs ŕ mettre en pratique les principes et les rŕgles que vous nous avez enseignŕs, nous irons encore vers vous comme vers nos maŕtres, veuillez ne pas cesser de nous recevoir comme des ŕlŕves, comme des enfants que vous avez formŕs, et qui ne cesseront toute leur vie de vous estimer et de vous honorer.

Et vous compagnons d'ŕtude, vous que chaque jour amenait ŕ la salle de lecture, il faut donc aussi vous quitter. Mais toute notre vie, nous nous rappellerons les jours heureux oŕ encore jeunes ŕtudiants nous suivions avec vous les cours de la Facultŕ de Droit; et en se sŕparant, nous avons le doux espoir que vous n'oublierez pas vos condisciples de troisiŕme annŕe de 1860. Adieu! Adieu!

Extrait du discours d'adieu

en 1864, de Sir Wilfrid Laurier, B.C.L. '64, LL.D. '99

Excerpt from the Valedictory Speech of 1864

by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, B.C.L. '64, LL.D. '99

De toutes les missions qu'il a été donné d'exercer à l'homme vivant en société, je n'en sache pas de plus grande que celle de l'homme de loi.

La mission de l'homme de loi est toute dans cette pensée: faire régner la justice. Rien sur la terre n'est aussi précieux que la justice, et rien peut-être n'est aussi difficile à obtenir. Tel est l'inconcevable mélange de bien et de mal dont se compose la nature de l'homme, que le vrai et le faux se retrouvent dans toutes ses oeuvres.

Etant donné cet état de choses démontré par l'expérience de chaque jour, l'on conçoit que c'est pour la société une tâche très ardue, en même temps qu'une responsabilité terrible, que celle de distribuer la justice à ses membres. Aussi dès que la civilisation commença à se répandre, l'administration de la justice qui jusque-là avait été fixée entre les mains arbitraires du pouvoir fut confiée à une classe d'hommes spécialement voués à cet objet.

Savoir faire le partage du vrai et du faux; savoir, dans les complications les plus enchevêtrées, faire la juste part du bien et du mal; savoir maintenir et partager les droits des citoyens; savoir conserver le repos général; savoir conserver aux familles l'héritage des aïeux, à l'individu l'honneur attaqué, à la morale publique la juste répression des offenses; savoir contenir l'audace du puissant et relever la

La faculté célèbre le 125^e anniversaire de sa «constitution officielle»; des anciens étudiants dotent l'université de bourses d'études du 125^e anniversaire

misère du faible sans violence pour l'un, sans impunité pour l'autre, rendre enfin à chacun selon ses oeuvres, voilà la mission conférée à l'homme de loi. Et je ne sache rien de plus grand; j'admire qui sur un champ de bataille sait mourir et sauver sa patrie; j'admire l'homme qui sait attacher toutes les générations aux créations de son génie; j'admire l'homme qui consacre toute une vie au soulagement de l'humanité, mais j'admire encore plus celui qui a pris pour but de sa vie, de ses études et de ses travaux, de rendre à chacun selon ses oeuvres. Toutes les gloires tous les mérites pâlisent devant ces simples et grandes pensées: rendre à chacun selon ses oeuvres, faire régner la justice. Mais aussi la société exige de ceux qui se vouent à l'administration de la justice de rudes et laborieux travaux.

....
...Outre cette mission générale de rendre justice, l'homme de loi, dans un pays libre, en voit une autre ouverte devant lui. C'est un fait remarquable et avéré que dans un pays libre, la première place appartient aux hommes de loi.

....
...La liberté n'est pas le pouvoir de tout dire et de tout faire: la liberté c'est le droit d'agir et de se mouvoir à l'aise et sans entrave dans le cercle de la constitution tracée par le peuple, sans que ce cercle puisse être élargi ou rétréci à volonté par une main despotique. Ainsi la liberté suppose la loi, et là l'avocat est sur son terrain.

Les prérogatives et les devoirs du peuple et de l'exécutif doivent être maintenus dans les limites de la constitution, et l'homme de loi, par le fait même de ses études, se trouve le mieux placé pour répondre aux exigences de cette situation, soit qu'il agisse dans l'exécutif et réclame les droits de l'autorité, soit que sa voix parte du sein du peuple, pour maintenir ses prérogatives, ou modérer, l'action envahissante du pouvoir.

En passant dans le domaine de la politique, l'homme de loi ne change pas de mission; là encore il aura à rendre à chacun selon ses oeuvres, à faire régner la justice; il ne fait qu'agrandir la sphère de son action: le tribunal auquel il s'adressera désormais sera l'opinion publique; le thème qu'il développera sera les droits ou les devoirs de toute une nation, et pour auditoire il aura tous les échos de la publicité. Si je parle ainsi, ce n'est pas que je veuille exciter l'ambition d'aucun; non, mais il est des enseignements que l'on ne doit jamais perdre de vue.

....
...Deux races se partagent aujourd'hui le sol canadien. Je puis le dire ici, car ce temps n'est plus; les races française et anglaise n'ont pas toujours été amies; mais je me hâte de le dire, et je le dis à notre gloire, les luttes de races sont finies sur notre sol canadien; il n'y a plus ici d'autre famille que la famille humaine, qu'importe la langue que l'on parle, les autels où l'on s'agenouille.

Nous retrouvons chaque jour les heureux effets de cette sainte oeuvre, –et dans cette solennité nous en avons encore une nouvelle preuve; vous avez entendu ici des noms français et anglais, portés sur les tableaux d'honneur, vous avez entendu quelqu'un vous adresser la parole en anglais, et moi maintenant qui vous parle, je vous parle dans ma langue maternelle, je vous parle en français. Il y a dans cette fraternité une gloire dont le Canada ne sait pas être assez fier, car bien de puissantes nations pourraient ici venir chercher une leçon de justice et d'humanité.

Messieurs, cet heureux état de chose, à quoi le devons-nous? Il peut en exister plus d'une cause, mais la principale c'est l'étude de la loi.

Deux législations différentes régissent ce pays: la législation française et la législation anglaise. Chacune de ces législations n'oblige pas seulement la race à laquelle elle est propre, mais chacune régit simultanément les deux races –et chose digne de remarque, cette introduction dans le même pays de deux systèmes de législation entièrement différents, s'est faite sans violence, sans usurpation, mais

1984
Gérald Le Dain est nommé à la Cour suprême du Canada

1989
Charles Doherty Gonthier est nommé à la Cour suprême du Canada

par le seul effet des lois de la justice. Il était en effet naturel qu'en passant sous la domination britannique, les habitants de ce pays continuassent d'être régis par leurs anciennes lois, dans tous les différends nés des transactions ordinaires de la vie, mais il était également juste que le nouveau gouvernement réprimât d'après ses propres lois, les offenses contre l'ordre public. Ces deux législations différentes s'appliquant chacune aux deux différentes races, et toutes deux à chaque race en particulier, ont opéré le premier rapprochement. Que l'on imagine ici sur ce sol, les deux nationalités soumises chacune à ses lois respectives, la cordialité et l'union ne pouvaient pas exister. Pourquoi? Parce que l'on aurait soigneusement évité des transactions qui auraient pu avoir pour résultat de faire juger les citoyens par d'autres lois que leurs propres lois. L'étude des lois a continué ce rapprochement, nous nous sommes familiarisés avec les juristes de la France et de l'Angleterre nos mères-patries; nous allions ensemble les génies de ces grandes nations; nous prenons la raison et la sagesse partout où elles se trouvent, peu importe dans quelle langue elles sont exprimées.

Comme résultat, et comme preuve de ce que j'avance, je cite ce fait que chacun peut vérifier, savoir, que l'union entre races n'est dans aucune classe de la société canadienne poussée aussi loin que parmi les hommes de loi....

La mission de l'homme de loi au Canada embrasse en résumé: la justice, la plus noble de toutes les perfections humaines; le patriotisme, la plus noble de toutes les vertus sociales; l'union entre peuples, le secret de l'avenir. Maintenant, Messieurs, nous voyons le but; à nous de faire que nos efforts en soient à la hauteur.

....
...Parvenus aux extrêmes limites de notre vie d'étudiants, contemplant la route maintenant ouverte devant nous, route pleine d'incertitudes, où il ne se trouvera plus de mains exercées pour extraire les épines et faciliter l'oeuvre, et ramenant ensuite notre pensée sur ces jours dont voici le dernier, sur ces jours où l'étude était facile, guidée par des mains savantes, récréée par des amis chaque jour – cette comparaison seule, à défaut d'autres motifs, suffirait pour nous faire compter ces jours de notre vie d'étudiant, au nombre des plus beaux de notre vie....

The Professor As Muse / Le professeur tel une muse

"'Owed' To the Professor of Constitutional Law"

by "O. Gammon" (*McGill Fortnightly*, January 1892)

*O the long but able lectures
On the law of constitution
How we shuddered when he spoke of
Erskine, May and Stubbs, and Hallam
When he mentioned to us Freeman
Or the English constitution
When he told of warring factions
Of the Cavaliers, and Roundheads
Of the Strifes of Whig and Tory.*

*Then he turned his thoughts to Scotland,
Land o'cakes, the bonny Scotland
Shouted in our ears so loudly
Of her battles and her glory,
Of her soldiers and her statesmen
Of the Stuarts and Prince Charlies
Left us then all flabbergasted
With our notes to fight and wrestle,
To unravel and decipher.*

*Pale and haggard, almost daunted
We were forced to write of Chatham
He whom men called Pitt, the Elder.*

1994
L'Institut de droit aérien et spatial reçoit la médaille du 50^e anniversaire
de l'Organisation de l'aviation civile internationale

*Magna Carta, Magna Carta!
Give us back our cherished birthright.*

*How the freedom of the subject
Filled the minds of Pym and Hampden,
Formed the theme of many a discourse,
But when he attained the climax
Of his lectures and discourses
He did speak of verdant Ireland
And her people persecuted,
Then her children in our classes
Cheered and shouted and applauded,
For he showed his way of thinking,
Showed them clearly, very clearly
That he sympathized with Gladstone
And the work of the Home Rulers.*

*How he formed the British Empire,
Then of William Pitt the Younger
He the mightiest among many,
And of lesser lights a myriad
Much caballing and contriving,*

*Ran away we with the idea
That the lectures soon would finish
But our hopes were rudely shattered
For he was just then beginning:
Thoughts of the examination
Came so swiftly to our visions,
That a dull despair did seize us,
Stupid we sat in our places,
In our eyes a stony glitter,
On our brows the sweat of anguish
Started, but it froze and fell not.*

«À un professeur de droit civil»

par David L. Sterns, B.A. '87, B.C.L. '91, LL.B. '91 (*Quid Novi*, November 2, 1987)

Monsieur le professeur Crépeau, j'ai mûrement réfléchi,
Avant d'écrire chaque mot de cette lettre-ci,
Car chaque mot a un sens et un sens très précis,
Et c'est dans ce sens-là que je pense quand j'écris.

Mais je suis bouleversé, je ne sais plus quoi penser,
Je suis dans un abîme, m'en sortirai-je jamais?
Il y a des mots dans notre droit, des principes étrangers,
Tel «invitée» qui ne furent jamais invités.

De surcroît, il y a un «trespasser» qui empiète sur notre droit,
Vilain envoyé, dit-on, de la «Common Law».
«Qu'est-ce que vous faites là?» je lui demande dans mes rêves,
En brandissant mon Code Civil comme dans une guerre sans trêve.

1997
Roderick A. Macdonald est nommé président de la Commission du droit du Canada

Croyez-le, Maître Crépeau, je suis un Civiliste,
Amoureux de Savatier, Pothier, Portalis.
Quels chefs-d'oeuvre, quels délices, comme leurs mots sont sages,
Que je m'enivre de l'odeur de raison de leurs pages.

Monsieur le professeur Crépeau, passez-moi le flambeau,
Ou venez avec moi pour faire casser Wabasso,
Nous trouverons cinq juges qui ont au moins quatre-vingt-dix ans,
Qui ont étudié le droit civil et qui ne parlent que le Latin.

Ou encore, mon professeur, si vous êtes d'accord,
Nous ferons notre propre tribunal, nous nous appellerons les «Lords»,
Et nous dirons ensemble sur un ton bien franc,
«Nous renvoyons la Common Law chez elle, avec dépens.»

Deans of the Faculty of Law / Les doyens de la Faculté de droit

1853-1855	William Badgley, <i>D.C.L.</i> '70
1855-1876	John J.C. Abbott, <i>B.C.L.</i> '54, <i>D.C.L.</i> '67
1876-1881	William W.H. Kerr, <i>B.C.L.</i> '72 (Acting Dean/doyen par intérim)
1881-1888	William W.H. Kerr, <i>B.C.L.</i> '72
1888-1896	Norman W. Trenholme, <i>B.A.</i> '63, <i>B.C.L.</i> '65, <i>M.A.</i> '67, <i>D.C.L.</i> '87
1896-1897	Leonidas Davidson, <i>B.A.</i> '63, <i>B.C.L.</i> '64, <i>M.A.</i> '67
1897-1914	Frederick P. Walton, <i>LL.D.</i> '15
1914-1915	Charles P. Davidson, <i>B.A.</i> '63, <i>B.C.L.</i> '63, <i>M.A.</i> '67, <i>D.C.L.</i> '75, <i>LL.D.</i> '12 (Acting Dean/doyen par intérim)
1915-1921	Robert W. Lee, <i>D.C.L.</i> '17
1921-1923	Robert A.E. Greenshields, <i>B.A.</i> '83, <i>B.C.L.</i> '85, <i>LL.D.</i> '29 (Acting Dean/doyen par intérim)
1923-1928	Robert A.E. Greenshields, <i>B.A.</i> '83, <i>B.C.L.</i> '85, <i>LL.D.</i> '29

1998
Inauguration de la Bibliothèque de droit Nahum Gelber; célébration du 150^e anniversaire de la Faculté de droit

1999
Création du programme *B.C.L./LL.B.* intégrés

1928-1936	Percy E. Corbett, <i>B.A.</i> '13, <i>M.A.</i> '15, <i>D.C.L.</i> '61
1936-1946	C. Stuart Lemesurier, <i>B.A.</i> '09, <i>B.C.L.</i> '12
1946	John P. Humphrey, <i>B.Com.</i> '25, <i>B.A.</i> '27, <i>B.C.L.</i> '29, <i>Ph.D.</i> '45, <i>LL.D.</i> '76 (Dean Designate/doyen nommé)
1946-1949	C. Stuart Lemesurier, <i>B.A.</i> '09, <i>B.C.L.</i> '12
1949	Gérald Fauteux, <i>LL.D.</i> '55
1950	A. Sydney Bruneau, <i>B.A.</i> '13, <i>B.C.L.</i> '17
1950-1960	William C.J. Meredith
1960-1961	Maxwell Cohen, <i>LL.D.</i> '94 (Acting Dean/doyen par intérim)
1961-1964	Francis R. Scott, <i>B.C.L.</i> '27, <i>LL.D.</i> '67
1964-1969	Maxwell Cohen, <i>LL.D.</i> '94
1969-1974	John W. Durnford, <i>B.A.</i> '49, <i>B.C.L.</i> '52
1974-1979	John E.C. Brierley, <i>B.C.L.</i> '59
1979-1980	William Foster (Acting Dean/doyen par intérim)
1980-1984	John E.C. Brierley, <i>B.C.L.</i> '59
1984-1989	Roderick A. Macdonald
1989-1994	Yves-Marie Morissette
1994-1999	Stephen J. Toope, <i>B.C.L.</i> '83, <i>LL.B.</i> '83
1999-	Peter Leuprecht

"The Wail of the Law Student"

by Frederick P. Walton, LL.D. '15 (Old McGill, 1904)

Hear me panting like a grampus,
As the clock strikes half-past eight,
And I scurry o'er the Campus,
Cursing my unhappy fate.

Ten "below," a north wind blowing,
Ugh! how warm it was in bed,
What that is the least worth knowing
Has the [most] chance of being said?

Law can never be called cheerful
As a subject for a grind,
But it would make angels tearful
At eight-thirty with a wind.

In the office worn and worried,
Being the only student there,
Back and forward, I am hurried,
Full of toil and full of care.

Till at four, with last instructions
To my patron—simple soul—
Knowing that there will be "ructions"
If I fail to catch the roll.

And yet fearing he may blunder,
Off I dash—a jaded wight—
To two lectures; then, Oh, thunder,
I must read two hours to-night.

Not all beer and not all skittles
Is our pilgrimage below,
All the jots and all the titles
Of the Codes one has to know.

Nearer, nearer, grows the Final,
I am standing on the brink,
And a shiver strikes my spinal
Marrow when I stop to think.

Arts and Science crowned with roses,
Gambol like the lambs in May,
We alone must keep our noses
To the grindstone all the day.

"A Lawyer's Plaint"

by Frederick P. Walton, LL.D. '15
(The Martlet, December 1909)

The Martlet's enterprising Board
Invites the professorial horde
With hearts aflame and fancy free,
To burst forth into poesy.

To those it is an easy task
To give these tyrants what they ask
Whose facile pen and fertile brain
Their chiefest care is to restrain,
The noble Faculty of Arts
Quickens the intellectual parts,
And musing on the classic page
Inspires men with a generous rage.

Carving the human form divine
May well evoke a noble line,
And engineers in all the ages
Have ranked with prophets and with sages.

But cases piling mountain high
Shut out the lawyer from the sky,
And the unending statute roll
Crushes all poetry from his soul.



"People we meet"
(McGill Outlook, 1903)

Here is the man who really wrote
The Novels of Justinian,
Who knows exactly how they ought
To govern our Dominion,
That he's a Dean, his stately mien
Would tell you in a minute,
And if you haven't heard his name,
You simply are not in it.

A Glimpse Of The Faculty's Scholarship

**An Act to Amend and Consolidate
the Criminal Laws of This Province**
William Badgley's proposed criminal code, 1850

The Bills of Exchange Act, 1890

Published in 1891, written by Désiré Girouard,
B.C.L. '60, D.C.L. '74
Index prepared by Désiré H. Girouard, *B.C.L. '90*

Canada and World Politics

Authored by Percy E. Corbett, *B.A. '13,*
M.A. '15, LL.D. '61,
and Herbert A. Smith, in 1928

A Civil Law Lexicon for Library Classification

Published in 1998
Written by Lenore Rapkin, *M.L.S. '78*

Code civil du Québec:

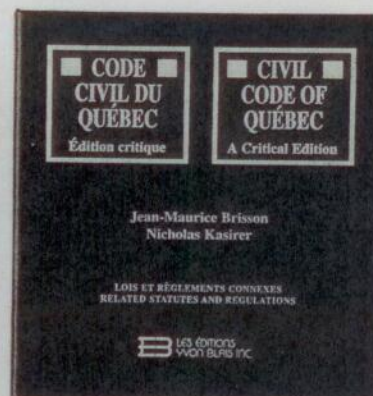
**Édition historique and critique, 1866-1980 /
Civil Code: Historical and Critical Edition,
1866-1980**

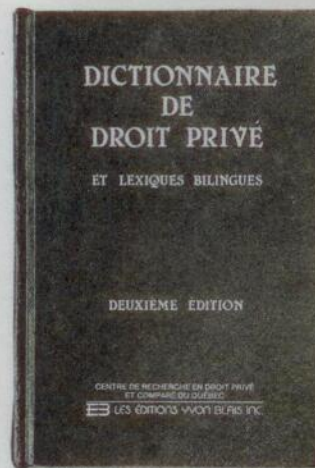
Établie par Paul-André Crépeau and
John E.C. Brierley, *B.C.L. '59*

Code civil du Québec:

**Édition critique / Civil Code of
Québec: A Critical Edition**

Edited by Jean-Maurice Brisson
and Nicholas Kasirer, *B.C.L. '85, LL.B. '85*
Published in Montreal, 1997





**The Conflict of Laws
in the Province of Quebec**

Published 1898

by Eugène Lafleur, B.A. '77, B.C.L. '80,
D.C.L. '00, LL.D. '21

**Dictionnaire de droit privé
et lexiques bilingues /**

Private Law Dictionary and Bilingual Lexicons

Second edition 1991

Compiled by McGill's Centre de recherche en droit
privé et comparé du Québec

Le droit civil canadien

Par Gonzalve Doutre, B.C.L. '61, D.C.L. '73,
et Edmond Lareau, B.C.L. '74

Le droit civil canadien

En sept tomes, 1895-1916

Écrit par Pierre-Basile Mignault, B.C.L. '78, LL.D. '20

Essays on the Constitution

Compilation of essays by F.R. Scott,
B.C.L. '27, LL.D. '67

French-English / English-French Law Dictionary

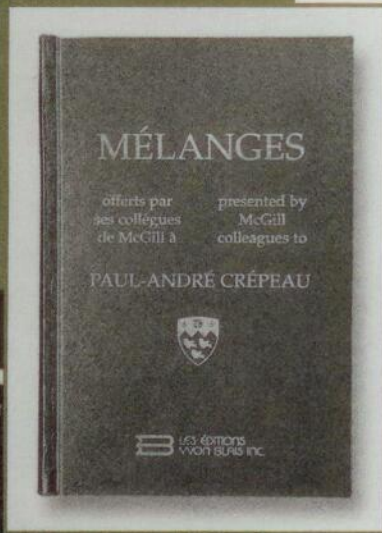
Written by Annie Macdonald Langstaff, B.C.L. '14
Published 1937

The Insolvent Act of 1864

Authored by Sir John J.C. Abbott,
B.C.L. '54, D.C.L. '67



Redpath Library, 1927 (MUA)



Law, Policy and International Justice

Edited by William Kaplan and Donald McRae

Published in 1997 in honour of

Maxwell Cohen, LL.D. '94

Major Legal Systems in the World Today

First English edition by René David and

John E.C. Brierley, B.C.L. '59

Marine Cargo Claims

Chinese printing, third edition

Written by William A. Tetley, B.A. '48

McGill Law Journal

Started in 1952, the oldest student-run

law journal in Canada

**Mélanges, Presented by McGill Colleagues
to Paul-André Crépeau**

Published by the Quebec Research Centre of Private
and Comparative Law, McGill University, 1997

Meredith Lectures / Conférences Meredith

Named in honour of William C.J. Meredith

Published annually since 1961

"A Noble Roster": 150 Years of Law at McGill

A classic even before it was in print

**Quebec Civil Law, An Introduction
to Quebec Private Law**

Edited by John E.C. Brierley, B.C.L. '59,

and Roderick A. Macdonald

A collaborative work by fourteen McGill
faculty members

The Railway Law of Canada

Written by Samuel W. Jacobs, *B.C.L.* '93
First edition 1909

The Law of Real Property, Quebec

Begun by William de Montmollin Marler,
B.A. '68, *B.C.L.* '72, *D.C.L.* '97
Completed by George C. Marler, *B.C.L.* '22,
LL.D. '65, in 1932

An Introduction to Roman-Dutch Law

Published by Robert W. Lee, *D.C.L.* '17
First edition 1915

**The Scope and Interpretation of the
Civil Code of Lower Canada**

Published in 1907
Written by Frederick P. Walton, *LL.D.* '15

The Seigneurial Regime in Canada

Written by Dorothy Heneker, *LL.B.* '24, *B.C.L.* '25

**Three Letters to the Hon. John Alexander
McDonald, Attorney General for Upper Canada**

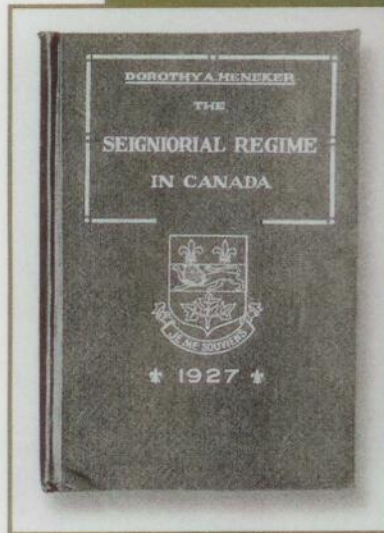
Published in Montreal, 1864
Written by Thomas d'Arcy McGee, *B.C.L.* '61
(see *Canadians* vol. 1 no. 7 at 99)

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Published March of 1949
First draft by John Humphrey, *B.Com.* '25, *B.A.* '27,
B.C.L. '29, *Ph.D.* '45

World Wide Space Law Bibliography

Multi-volume work by law librarian Kuo Lee Li,
LL.M. '68, *M.L.S.* '68



Alan Aylesworth Macnaughton Reading Room,
Nahum Gelber Law Library, 1998 (FLA)