

RECTOR'S REPORT:

1953
Reverend Fathers, Honoured Guests, Graduates, Parents and Friends, there may have been a day when it was possible, within the time allotted to this part of the programme, to give an adequate account of the year's activities at Loyola. What tradition calls the Rector's Report was then truly a report of the year's work but passing years have seen such changes that to attempt anything like a complete account of this year's happenings is out of the question.

WHAT I have prepared, therefore, for you this evening are some facts on a few selected topics that I hope will be of interest to you all.

FIRST of all I wish to welcome Graduates, Parents and Friends who have come here this evening to celebrate with us Loyola's 57th Annual Convocation. To the Parents of the Graduates in particular and to everyone who helped them to attain this goal, I offer a special word of gratitude and congratulations. You have cooperated in an extremely worth while undertaking which, without your assistance, would never have come to such a successful conclusion. You have very good reason, therefore, to feel happy and proud.

IT IS a particular pleasure for me to be able to welcome The Honourable Mr. Justice Collins, who has kindly accepted our invitation to give the traditional address to the Graduates. Judge Collins is a native of London, Ontario, a graduate of St. Michael's College, Toronto and McGill University, who was appointed Judge of the Superior Court in 1946. Since coming to

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Montreal he has not only distinguished himself in the profession of law but by his active participation in the Catholic life of our City he has shown himself an active and zealous layman.

WE HAVE invited you here this evening Judge Collins, not only because we expect to hear something worth while from you but also because we hope that our Graduates will see in you a model Catholic life and will be inspired to follow in your footsteps.

WE WERE honoured this year at Loyola by an official visit from His Eminence Paul-Emile Cardinal Leger, Archbishop of Montreal. His Eminence celebrated a Pontifical High Mass and spoke to the assembled students on the occasion of the celebration of our patronal feast. Like everyone else in Montreal, the students and faculty of Loyola College were grateful and proud of the honour which His Holiness the Pope bestowed on our Archbishop by elevating him to the Cardinalate. I take this occasion of renewing our expressions of loyalty and devotion on behalf of the student body, the faculty and myself.

ON THE WHOLE this has been for us a very encouraging year. There was a sizeable increase in our registration; in fact we registered more Freshmen this year than any other previous year of our existence. This is also the largest Graduating class in our history. We are conferring Degrees on 78 Bachelor of Arts, Commerce and Science.

MOREOVER our Graduates who have gone on for further study have enabled us by their success to form a favorable judgment of the calibre of the training they have received here.

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AMONG our many Graduates we pick out for special mention four who will receive or have already received this year, Ordination to the Priesthood, Father Norris and Father O'Connell who were ordained to the diocese this past month. This month we hope to have the happiness of two of our Graduates, David Asselin and Joseph Johnson of the Society of Jesus, ordained at Loyola.

THE RESULTS of the Commerce Course more than justified the decision and the sacrifices made in instituting it five years ago. To-night we graduate some twenty-two young men with their Bachelor of Commerce Degree. The ease with which they have found places for themselves in business and in industry proves to us the need for providing such training.

THERE have been several noteworthy innovations in the College this year. The large number of our lay staff has made it necessary for us to institute a pension plan for our employees. This plan was drawn up and put into operation last year.

MOREOVER we have organized a Placement Bureau to assist our students not only in obtaining permanent employment at the end of their course but also employment during the summer.

THE COLLEGE suffered a grave loss this year in the death of our Procurator, Rev. Charles Kelly. Father Kelly came to Loyola four years ago and immediately undertook to find ways and means of adding to our income. He was meeting with very encouraging results from his work when God suddenly called him to his reward. We hope to continue the Jesuit Educational Fund and the Associates of Loyola, an organization which he began and

in the course of the summer someone will be named in his place.

TONIGHT marks the tenth anniversary of the Science Course at Loyola. It was in September, 1942, that we enrolled the first Freshman Class who were preparing to receive their B.Sc. Degree. For that reason a special evaluation of this course is not out of place in this report.

THE DAILY PRESS abounds in quotations such as the following from Charles B. Steinmetz, Consulting Engineer to the General Electric Company: "It is my opinion that the neglect of the classics is one of the most serious mistakes of modern education and that the study of the Classics is very important and valuable and more so in the education of the technical engineer than in most other professions for the reason that the vocation of an engineer is specially liable to make a man one-sided." Or that of Charles H. Herty, former President of the American Chemical Society: "If we are to rise above mediocrity in our scientific work, surely it must be upon the solid foundation of a broad and liberal education, which will give us men possessed of lively imagination, clarity of thought, grace in expression and souls imbued with the deepest respect for the human race in all its struggles upward."

IT WAS in answer to statements such as these that the authorities at Loyola undertook a Science Course that would attempt to provide some of the broader cultural subjects without sacrificing any of the essential scientific disciplines. Students in this course were expected to follow lectures in English, French, Public Speaking, Theology and Philosophy as well as the

course prescribed in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geology, etc. Operating a College is a responsibility as well as a privilege, a responsibility to the student and to the Community. Because we felt and feel that there was a need for such a course the College determined to provide it. Courses were therefore begun in Honours Science, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics, General Science and Engineering. These last allowed a student to complete the first three years of his Science course while he was obtaining a B.Sc. Degree.

TONIGHT'S is the sixth class to graduate in Science. Of the first five classes there were fifty-three in Engineering, sixty-five in General Science, ten in Honours Chemistry, six in Honours Physics and three in Honours Mathematics. Of these last graduates in the Honours Course four have obtained their Doctorates, and four more are studying for this same Degree. Four have received their Masters Degree and three others are in the process of fulfilling the requirements. Of the fifty-three Engineers, only two have failed to go on to obtain their Degree in Engineering in the branch of their choice.

YOU CAN guess that all this has not been done with the assistance of others. I take this opportunity to thank the Rector and authorities of the University of Montreal who have recognized our Degrees. The authorities of McGill who accept our graduates into their Engineering School and who, besides, rendered invaluable service in drawing up the courses.

SPECIAL thanks have to be given to the teachers on the staff, clerical and lay for their self-sacrifice and generosity.

THIS work is carried on under certain financial difficulties peculiar to ourselves. Because we are not a University we are cut off from certain sources of income that are available to others. Even our students cannot claim assistance that they might obtain in a University from Government Scholarships. As a result we have to keep our fees low to compensate for this any pay out of our own resources the costs of building laboratories and equipping them. Our fees are such that 75% of our students are able to pay for themselves the money they earn during the summer. One of Father Kelly's tasks was to raise money for this work. We feel after ten years it has proven itself and we have no hesitation in calling upon those interested and able to assist us in this work by their donations.

TONIGHT is the eve of the Coronation. As we talk preparations are going apace in England. Our tribute to the Queen and to our country is to provide the nation with men prepared in body, mind and heart to play their part in the nation. Such a class. No hesitation, take great pride in offering our gift to the Queen and to the nation.