

Loyola
College
Montreal Canada



RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

1958

THE RECTOR'S REPORT

CONVOCATION

MAY 31 — 1958

Before presenting my Report, I desire to offer thanks to Almighty God for the successful year we have enjoyed at Loyola College. I wish also to testify to the very substantial contribution my academic and administrative staff have made to the College, and to thank them for a fidelity, a loyalty, and a professional competency not easily matched in the field of education where these virtues are often outstanding. It is only fitting too, that I should offer my praise to the student-body for the enthusiasm they have displayed in student activities, thus strengthening Loyola's esprit-de-corps at home and enhancing Loyola's fair name abroad.

REGISTRATION

In each Report over the past four years, I have given warning about the certain increase of students, an increase which will continue until 1970. In my Report at the Convocation of 1957, I anticipated an increase of 12% for the current scholastic year. In our regular courses we registered 483 students, an increase of 13%. In addition, there were 129 students who registered in our new Extension course, thus bringing the total number of students to 612, the highest number pursuing university courses in the history of Loyola. A break-down in the regular courses shows that there are 31% in the Faculty of Arts, 48% in the Faculty of Science, and 21% in the Faculty of Commerce. Though there is a slight decline in the percentage of students in the Faculties of Arts and Commerce, and a slight increase in the percentage of the students in the Faculty of Science, nevertheless there is an increase in the total number of students in each Faculty.

It is of considerable interest to note that, in comparison with the six chartered universities of the Province of Quebec—three French Catholic and three English Protestant—Loyola has more students in her Faculty of Commerce than the combined total of two of these universities, and almost twice as many students in the Faculty of Science as the combined total of three of these universities. One cannot but see again how necessary it is that Loyola obtain her Charter in order to assume her rightful place among her sister institutions of higher learning. I might remind my listeners that Loyola has been seeking a Charter for the past fifty-nine years. I might also remind us that Charters have been granted to four other colleges in Quebec during the past thirty-six years. I might also add that Loyola is still seeking a Charter in order better to serve the legitimate interests of the English-speaking Catholic minority of the Province of Quebec.

STUDIES

In respect of studies, I am pleased to report that academic standards continued to be maintained and strengthened. In addition to the studies of our Jesuit staff, every member of my full-time lay-staff, apart from the ordinary research for the courses he is giving, is engaged in either pre-doctoral or post-doctoral work. Many of the staff belong to various Learned Societies in Canada and the United States, and they have represented Loyola at meetings and conventions.

A number of new developments and associations during the year might now be noted. Loyola instituted an Extension Department last September. Courses were given in the evening and to them came people from the professions, from corporations, from industry, and from business. Fifteen courses were offered, and, as reported above, 129 registered for them. It is my intention to increase the number of courses this coming year in order to offer a greater service in meeting the needs in this important field of work.

Since my last report, the honours course in our Department of Chemistry has been accredited as fulfilling all the requirements for

Professional Membership in the Chemical Institute of Canada. Also during this period, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Province of Quebec has exempted Loyola Commerce Graduates from the usual Intermediate Examinations and from three of the five years of apprenticeship usually required for the Chartered Accountant Certificate. For the first time at Loyola, The National Research Council has awarded grants so that members of our staff can go forward in specialized fields of post-doctoral research.

FINANCES

We turn to the problem of finances. I use the word "problem" advisedly because the spectre of deficits haunts and harrows Loyola perhaps even more than it does other educational institutions. Loyola College has been saddled with a bond issue of great proportions and of many years standing, and we must meet this in a year's time. Loyola has been forced to take out a loan during the past year in order to meet her obligations. In addition, Loyola is faced with the cost of rising salaries for each member of its staff together with an increase in numbers of the staff itself; Loyola is faced with the rising cost of living for food and clothing and the necessities of life.

The sources of income are very clear: last year we received 11% from the Provincial Government grants, 5% from the generous outside labours of my Jesuit staff, about 1% from sporadic donors, and the remaining 83% from student fees. Dr. C. T. Bissell, President-elect of the University of Toronto, has shown from his survey that Canadian Universities, in order to meet expenses, cannot count on more than about 30% of their income from student fees while, at the same time, they depend on gifts for 25% of their income. Furthermore, the fees our students pay are considerably less—sometimes 50% less—than those at other universities, and they pay them for the identical courses at the identical standards requiring the identical qualifications and salaries of staff.

The question may be asked: how does Loyola do it? The answer is: Loyola doesn't ! However, Loyola *aims* at it by contributing the free services of its Jesuit staff, and this free contribution has amounted to something near \$3 million during the past fifteen years. Putting it in another way, my Jesuit staff at Loyola has contributed \$3 million which the parents of our students would otherwise have had to pay for the education of their sons, while, during the same period, Loyola has had to borrow in excess of \$½ million to carry on. Such religious idealism is clearly folly to any worldly-minded businessman. Let us presume to hope that, if it is folly, it has been in line with the folly of the saints. However, academic health, and even survival, is forcing us to change to a more realistic approach to our sources of income.

Canada's recent development has been so great as to be almost explosive, and I note that the Gross National Product has risen from \$5 billion in 1926 to almost \$30 billion in 1956, an increase of 600% in thirty years. Loyola could certainly do with some of this money. Dr. Albert Trueman has observed: "there is nothing wrong with Canadian education that a great deal of money, properly applied, would not set right". We may remember that when the "Canadian Conference on Education" presented its resolutions in February of this year, thirteen of the thirty-one resolutions called for the spending of more money on education. Loyola College earnestly endorses this, and I ask our friends in government, in industry and business, and in the professions, to consider seriously how each of them can contribute to the needs of Loyola. Loyola is faithfully serving them. Loyola hopes that they, in turn, will even increase their aid in helping Loyola to serve them more.

OTHER SERVICES

In previous reports I have spoken about our ideals of education, about the liberalizing and balance of our Science and Commerce courses, about the structure and function of our Honours Courses, about the Loyola system of student-counselling, about our policy of

giving bonuses to our staff for post-graduate studies, about our service for student-loans, and about the Province of Quebec Bursaries. In addition, I have spoken about the valuable service our Placement Bureau renders not only to our students but also to a very great number of industries and companies who are anxious to add Loyola Graduates to their staffs. Time does not permit me to dilate on the way these important elements have been implemented during the past year. Suffice it to say that they have gone forward in a very heartening manner.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

In the matter of extra-curricular activities, Loyola has had, perhaps, one of the best and most active programmes in many years. The most stirring events—events which have elicited a fine response from every student—were the major Dramatic Production and the Winter Carnival. "The Tea-house of the August Moon" drew high praise from professional critics, it played to capacity audiences, and it had to be held over by popular demand. Our Winter Carnival embraced many events during the three days it was held: a debate, an invitational ski-meet at Mont Gabriel, curling, a social at the Chalet and the Sno-ball at a down-town hotel, and, especially, the extraordinary skill, variety, and number of the ice-sculptures. In addition, it was the occasion during which Loyola won its hockey championship—the eighth in the past nine years—not to speak of an ice show put on by our students in the ice-stadium after the game.

In the field of athletics, our Director of Athletics guided our students in the competition against other member-teams in the Ottawa-St. Lawrence Intercollege Athletic Association in hockey, golf, skiing, curling and basketball. I am glad to report that over 70% of the student-body participated in Intramural Athletics which involved football, hockey, basketball, skiing, curling, tennis, golf, bowling, volleyball, and swimming. Finally I was able to announce our decision to resume our College football again in the Ottawa-St. Lawrence Conference, after

an interval of two years. I desire publicly to thank our Director of Athletics, our coaches and, especially, our students for a most successful year's activities.

I recall with pleasure the excellent record of our Debating Society during the year. They debated against other universities in Canada, against other universities in United States at Chicago and at the St. Lawrence College tournament, they debated against other teams in the City. Much praise should be given to our student publications—the *Review*, the *Loyola News*, the *Amphora*, and the publications of the various Faculties; also to the students' organizations working under the Committee of Student Representatives (which is officially responsible for student-government), and the Societies working under the three Faculties, the Sodality with its inspiring programme of spiritual and charitable works, and the organization of spiritual retreats.

Such an enumeration of activities neither does full justice to, nor does it capture the spirit of dynamism which invigorates the staff and students at Loyola College. Loyola is by policy a smaller college, and I trust that, even with increasing numbers, its spirit will always remain that of a smaller college; for its strength lies precisely in this: communication between professor and student is on a personal basis with the strength and rich experience that all this implies. This policy is in line with the best traditions of the most distinguished colleges and universities of western culture over the centuries, and it characterizes the better colleges and universities of today. The primacy of the individual, the desire for quality of mind, and the well-balanced personality are the vital aims of such a tradition, a tradition to which Loyola adheres.

This ideal is being recognized more and more by those enlightened men whose professional field is outside that of education. Mr. C. Sydney Frost, President of the Bank of Nova Scotia, said, last February, that strengthening small, decentralized universities is the best method of meeting the challenge of higher education in Canada. Another eminent Canadian, Mr. James Muir, President of The Royal Bank of Canada, has recently written:

"A liberal education seeks to instil a genuine concern for the human qualities of life, by providing the student with knowledge of himself and of others, of the physical and biological world, of his own and other cultures. It gives him an historical view of man's achievements and of his religious and philosophical heritage. It helps a person to keep his balance."

During this past year, therefore, Loyola has endeavoured to maintain her ideals and performance which tradition demands of her, and which, we trust, are embodied in our graduates of today: the clear perspective of values and the strong equilibrium which is the birthright of a citizen of this earth who is also a citizen of Heaven.

May 31, 1958

Very Rev. Gerald F. Labey, S.J.

