

1960

RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

LOYOLA COLLEGE

CONVOCATION, 1960

It is my duty to give you some statement on Loyola College from the Convocation in 1959 until this present academic exercise. For some of my report, I shall have to depend on the records because I was not appointed to my present post until August, 1959. Perhaps, however, I have a good starting point in that, because I wish to express publicly my sincere gratitude for the welcome which Loyola College and its friends, citizens of Montreal, and my academic colleagues across the country extended to me on my appointment to this celebrated seat of learning. I do thank all of you for your kind sentiments and remarks, and I pledge my utmost effort to serve the tradition for which Loyola is justly honoured, and to further the aspirations which, in their fulfilment, will allow Loyola to offer still greater service.

To come to Loyola as the thirteenth rector is, quite clearly, to come as the successor of the twelfth Rector. Actually, I have inherited a wonderful beginning made under my predecessor, the Very Reverend Gerald F.

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Lahey, S.J. Father Lahey, as you may know, came to Loyola at a time of upsurging growth in colleges and universities throughout Canada. He brought a wealth of talent and experience to set Loyola on a path of wise but adventurous expansion. A scholar, he carefully guarded the academic and spiritual traditions of this college; and educator, he translated the ideals of our tradition into renewed curriculum building and a stronger faculty roster; an experienced college administrator, he organized the financial campaign and the plan for construction which we all know as the Loyola Development Program. We have had a great number of events even in a few years to change the frame of reference under which the plan was conceived; we have had therefore a good number of revisions, most of them towards a more optimistic pace of achievement. But basically, we have continued with the plan so carefully devised. My report then will outline the progress that we have made along the path which the Loyola Development Program has mapped out for us.

Speaking of the Loyola Development Program, I may perhaps indicate that the first intensive phase of our

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financial appeal concluded successfully with the subscription of one million three hundred thousand dollars. Last year The Rector's Report gave considerable attention to the Campaign. Perhaps I may be allowed to re-iterate briefly our thanks to the many friends who worked and contributed towards our achievement. We are very much in your debt.

A second subscription, recently carried out in St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, surpassed the stated goal of three hundred thousand dollars. This sum, though directly destined to parish purposes, represents a vote of confidence in the College itself. In particular, it re-states beyond doubt the warm and fruitful partnership of parish and college and it provides, on the most solemn occasions, a divine edifice befitting the functions that mark the progress of the academic year. I feel, therefore, that among the many benefactors of Loyola (several of whom must be unnamed) I might particularly mention Father Masterson, the parish priest, his staff, and Messrs. William Bathurst and John Ledoux who led a large and enthusiastic group of parish workers in successful pursuit

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of the project. The new parish church in its spacious beauty will ennoble a campus already noble and re-assert in unmistakable terms the primacy we hold for spiritual over all our other ideals and efforts.

To manage the growing college and the whole expansion program, it has been necessary to overhaul administrative functions established in a simpler and more familial era of our history, and to set up new administrative posts. Thus, we are happy to have Father Thomas Mullally, S.J. as College Treasurer, Father E. J. Sherry, S.J. as supervisor of building projects, and Mr. Julius J. Mihalik, executive assistant to the Rector, who has special duties in the fields of development, public relations and alumni activities. Mr. Mihalik is replacing Father C. N. Rushman, S.J., who has conducted the intensive phase of the Loyola Development Program with creditable distinction and success. Other appointments in the various branches of administration are planned for the coming year.

A most important event in the educational life of the Province of Quebec, and a decision vital to the welfare of this institution, has been the federal-provincial

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accord on the question of financial aid to higher education. Thus far, Loyola College has received no payments under terms of Bills passed in the recent session of the Quebec Legislature, but we have good assurance that we shall now, with governmental assistance, have means and resources to provide educational opportunities second to none in the country.

Meanwhile, we at Loyola should like to put on record our happiness with the solution, and to thank the Government of Quebec for the equitable and generous provisions which it has made for all institutions of higher learning in the Province. We are particularly happy that so much of the programme of aid has been put on a statutory basis. Educational institutions are thus accorded an arrangement more in keeping with their dignity and with their mission of public service (regardless of political affiliation). More important, they can now plan with less uncertainty for the sizeable expansion with which all of them in this Province are confronted.

Our first concern, now that financial means are within sight, has been to increase the remuneration paid

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for the services of our professors. The salary scale which we have adopted effective August 1st next, is not the best in Canada but it is unsurpassed by any university or college in the Province of Quebec; it is also the highest scale paid in any Catholic college or university in the Province. If the professors, who have made sacrifices for Catholic education over many years, find that they cannot spend the money, they are encouraged to think of higher education as a most serious and neglected cause in the English-Catholic community of the Province of Quebec. We are further providing a comprehensive pension scheme with immediate vesting of the complete premium in members of faculty, thus assuring a high degree of academic freedom. And finally, the College is undertaking to pay a past service benefit calculated on the basis of the newly-introduced salary scale. In making these announcements, I have a little, but only a little, pride in the decisions of Loyola College; I have much, and indeed much, pride in the loyalty and competence of our staff. Their scholarship and dedication have been throughout the years outstanding.

Our second concern has been to augment the

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strength of faculty so that we might, without any lowering of standard, cope with our steadily rising enrolment. Last year, some ten members joined or re-joined the full-time professional body; this year, our plans call for the recruitment of eleven additional full-time members of teaching staff. I wish to insist on the point of faculty development because a college administrator may seem to prize expanding physical plant and rising enrolment figures. Loyola has a tradition of excellent teaching and personal relationship between staff and students. Our first concern has been to safeguard these precious educational values. We invite our friends to share our concern for the richest process of learning and help us bring distinguished scholars in abundance to this campus.

The building program is already begun. We have renovated a house on campus to provide residence accommodations for thirty college students. The plans for the Science Building are well advanced, and construction is set to begin in the late summer. Further space in the central building has been allocated to faculty offices and college classroom requirements. Minor renovations in the

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main building offer new areas for the administrative offices. Planning is underway for a student residence to house some three hundred college students, and preliminary drawings are almost completed for the new college church.

The announcement made by Marianopolis College recently that it will move closer to Loyola campus is indeed a welcome one. We have hopes that a women's college under the direction of the Congregation of Notre Dame will rise on our south campus and will, by co-operative academic planning and sharing of specialized instructional facilities, increase the variety of available courses and enhance the scholarly reputation of the English-speaking Catholic community in the Province of Quebec. A closer co-operation between Marianopolis College and Loyola College cannot fail to strengthen our claim to university status. Indeed, it should hasten the day which has been in our dreams for these many years, the day when a substantial minority in the Province can conduct their educational program along lines of their choice.

Let me make it clear that no narrow, exclusive or sectarian motive urges us to seek an English-speaking

Catholic institution. Students from eighteen foreign countries are proud to be our students, and we are proud to have them. Students from every major ethnic and cultural group of Canadians are enrolled at Loyola, and we are proud to have them. Similarly, our faculty includes scholars of various creeds, colours and races, and we are proud to have them. Our academic community works freely under the tutelage of a Catholic philosophy of education which makes an honourable place for the disinterested search for human knowledge in any discipline. We consider it no limitation on anyone that he be invited to include the data of Christian revelation among the objects of his scholarly effort.

In connection with these thoughts, I should like to appropriate some plain words from the Bishop of Salford. They will serve to re-state the aims of this college and, at the same time, correct the picture that is too often drawn of a church-affiliated institution. His Lordship has written as follows:

We are, so to speak, slowly climbing
the rungs of the educational ladder, and we seem in

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some ways almost reluctant — pressed on by weight of numbers rather than academic zeal — to take our proper place in the university field. Are we still bothered, I wonder, by the niggling feeling that somehow faith and scholarship, faith and science, cannot be squared; even that there is danger to the faith in too much knowledge? Is there still among us that relic of second-rate religious education which would substitute deportment for intelligence, and piety for technique, and would be prepared to disguise an intellectual mediocrity under the trappings of the faith? The Catholic who wishes to serve God by his scholarship and his intellectual work must first possess his subject before he can worthily offer it back again to his Maker. Piety, in this realm, is no substitute for technique. It is easy enough to extol the ages of the faith, the faith that built the great cathedrals. Gilson has rightly reminded us, however, that the faith would have constructed nothing at all if there had not also been architects. The façade of Notre Dame of Paris may be described as a yearning of the soul toward God, but it

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is also based on sound knowledge of geometry and applied mathematics. (London Tablet)

Student enrolment has once again risen sharply in all branches of our university work. Overall registration was 26% higher in 1959-60 than it was in the previous session. Reliable forecasts for the coming year indicate a further rise of 19%, bringing the full-time day enrolment of male students to more than one thousand. These numbers have sorely taxed our physical plant and facilities; they have also given us some pressing problems in the area of student services. I refer particularly to the counselling program which suffers from a lack of personnel and suitable quarters.

Student performance has been reasonably good, though Loyola, like nearly every Canadian college and university, has an inordinate number of failures in the freshman year. It is not my purpose here to attempt any analysis of the causes of these failures, but I do believe that I should give notice to parents and students alike that we cannot, with our cramped quarters and hard-worked staff, consider endless excuses for entrants who cannot or will not

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profit fully from the exceptional opportunity which is theirs in admission to college. On the advice of our faculty, more stringent regulations will soon be in force so that students who have not lived up to expectations will have much less leniency.

I shall not describe in detail the new course offerings or the changes in curriculum. We have continued the plan for curriculum revision set out by my predecessor and have made good progress particularly in Chemistry, Economics, English, French, Geology and History. In the coming session, we plan new offerings in Classics, Physics, Political Science and Mathematics, and a careful revision of the syllabus for Philosophy and Theology.

Our evening and summer courses leading to degrees continue to attract increasing numbers of adult students. Under the energetic and understanding direction of the Dean of Extension, Father T. Moylan, S.J., registration has risen by 157.7% in the last three years. We have now 352 students, a staff of twenty-two instructors, and an offering of twenty-five courses in the current session. There is every indication that our extension

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program will continue to grow. We find this growth gratifying since we have insisted on complete attainment of the standards set for our day-school courses.

Another phase of college life that has had a successful year has been that of student government and activities. If I may begin with the sports program, I shall congratulate the Loyola College Athletic Association for participating at varsity level in the following activities: football, soccer, hockey, basketball, swimming, skiing, curling, golf and tennis. We are happy to report that all the teams did well, even those in soccer and swimming who were competing extramurally for the first time, and that our teams in football and hockey again won the championship in their respective leagues. In addition to intercollegiate activities, the college has a well-developed intramural program with competition in nine different sports.

The spiritual life of the campus has been the direct responsibility of several members of staff and a number of student organizations. I pay tribute to all of them for their work which, carried out under serious disabilities consequent on upsurging registration, has

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proved fruitful. Perhaps, if I may, I should single out the Sodality of Our Lady for its leavening influence on the spiritual — and indeed many other — facets of student life. Their efforts, on and off the campus, have been a striking practical statement of our Catholic heritage and demonstration, if there be need, that piety and learning can run forward hand in hand.

Student government, working in close harmony with the Office of the Rector, has gladly and efficiently assumed much fuller responsibility for student activities. I am particularly happy with the beginning of a new financial arrangements for student activities, and look forward to still further development of a student discipline committee. I wish to thank student officers for offering a furnished student lounge as a gift to the college, and I wish to thank the students for their generous contributions towards this gift.

Our audited statement for the fiscal year ended July 31st, 1959, indicates that the over-all operating expenses were \$316,376.70. Income amounted to \$638,718.89. Thus the operating deficit was \$178,157.81. Income was made

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up of fees from students, the Provincial Grant of \$37,000.00, and the outside ministry of my Jesuit staff. The Provincial Statutory Grant of \$25,000.00 was not received until September, 1959, therefore this sum will only show as income for the 1959-60 fiscal year. The deficit was made up by the free, contributed, academic services of the Jesuit staff which amounted to a net of \$228,300.00. I may perhaps note that forthcoming governmental assistance will be directed to the much-needed expansion program. Our operating deficit is, then, likely to persist in the coming academic year.

Before concluding this report, I wish to acknowledge the assistance which Loyola has had from the members of the Advisory Board and, in particular, from Mr. T. P. Slattery, the College solicitor. We welcome the decision of the Alumni Association to resume the annual giving project which was discontinued during the Loyola Development Program. And we welcome, too, the decision of the Loyola Alumni Association to set up a loan fund valued at \$14,000.00 to assist deserving students to complete their college education. We trust that the sum
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will grow to meet some of the many requests which the College receives for financial assistance.

Loyola College also received a gift of \$21,000.00 from the Catholic Social Service Guild to found scholarships in memory of the late Lily E. F. Barry. Scholarships from this fund will be allocated first during the coming academic year. We are happy to receive this assistance for promising students, and we consider it a fitting remembrance of a distinguished Catholic laywoman. We also record a perpetual bursary in the amount of fifty dollars annually which has been donated by the Notre Dame de Grace Business Men's Association in memory of Charles C. Brown, a friend and neighbour of Loyola College. And finally, we wish to thank Mrs. F. D. V. Ryan for a sizeable donation of books from her late husband's library. These benefactions and all others are inscribed in the grateful and constant prayers of the Jesuit community.

Our acknowledgements could not be complete without a word of tribute to Mr. J. J. Withnell who, after thirty years of faithful service, is retiring from the

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college staff and his post in the Registrar's Office. They must also include a word of special thanks to Monsignor Lussier, the Rector of the University of Montreal, and several officers of the University, for their understanding help in the growth of our academic program, and their encouraging support of our aspirations to obtain university status. It was the Rector who personally sponsored Loyola's successful request for full membership in the National Conference of Canadian Universities and Colleges.

Lest my report grow longer, let me simply thank all who have helped to make this year one of achievement and one of very bright hopes for the future. My congratulations to the Class of '60 who have participated in Loyola's coming of age, and who can now continue, in the tradition of our graduates, the upbuilding of their Alma Mater that she, and all of us, may serve unhampered for the greater glory of God.

Montreal, May 28th, 1960.

Very Rev. Patrick G. Malone, S.J.