



DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
HALIFAX, N.S.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 22, 1944.

Dear Dean MacDonald:

I am writing at the first opportunity to-day to tell you what happened at a meeting of the Executive of the Governors of Dalhousie last evening:

Yesterday I had the definite resignation of Professor John Willis from the staff of the Law Faculty, who has been Acting Dean in your absence. This is a sad loss to the Law Faculty and to the University and community at large. But I suppose nothing can be done about it as Professor Willis has accepted a teaching appointment in Osgoode Hall, Toronto.

We had, when the war began, four full time teachers on the staff: one went to the Air Force; you went off on leave to duties in Ottawa; and now Willis is gone. We still have students in Law, though in greatly diminished numbers, and the work must go on. There must be not merely an adequate teaching staff, but there must be some direction of the Faculty, more especially as until we can replace the full staff we have to depend largely on part-time teachers who are also scarce in numbers and hard to find.

The only way we can possibly carry on is to insist that you return to your teaching duties and your duties as Dean of the School. You were doing work for the Government, which of course, we were very glad to have you do, even before you got formal leave as Dean in September, 1942. The Government, therefore, will have had your services entirely for two complete academic years if you return to us in good time for the opening of term in September next.

We have all done here, in all departments, now, everything we could possibly do to aid in the war effort. But I have always taken the line, and the Government has wisely been agreeable to this stand on the part of heads of universities, that whereas we would do everything, short of closing down faculties (we have, to be sure, given up the work of some departments), on the other hand, the Government must not allow faculties to discontinue.

I wish that in communicating our request to you to return, you would make it plain to your superiors in Ottawa, that we have not grudged them your help, but that in the present juncture we see no way through except to insist on your return.

Yours sincerely,

Carlton Stanley.

Dean V. C. MacDonald,
Assistant Deputy Minister of Labour,
Department of Labour,
Ottawa, Ontario.