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# L'enseignement de la traduction à Montréal : (3) McGill University

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sion, jusqu'à la traduction proposée (qui n'est, du reste, jamais que proposée et, notamment, à nombre de nouveaux examens critiques dont le premier, car noblesse oblige, incombe au traducteur même).

Pour donner à l'élève les outils et moyens qui lui assureront l'heureux déroulement de ses démarches entre l'original et la traduction, rien n'est accessoire dans l'enseignement du maître qui délimite les vocabulaires, conseille les recettes, propose les dosages, s'attaque aux dangereuses habitudes et nuisibles obstinations, redoutable écueil ces dernières !

D'une traduction qui se lit bien, il est souvent dit, en manière de compliment, qu'elle ne semble pas être une traduction, mais fait figure d'oeuvre originale. De ce jugement, le traducteur de métier incline cependant à se méfier, à moins que n'aient été mis en oeuvre à grand labeur, et qu'il le sache, tous ces humbles moyens qui donnent la clé de l'expression naturelle et de la vie.

Humbles moyens, modestes outils, longues recherches, valeurs d'échange entre élève et maître, le maître toujours élève, poursuivant un apprentissage dont il ne conçoit pas la fin.



## ¶ L'ENSEIGNEMENT DE LA TRADUCTION A MONTREAL

### (3) McGill University

While translation as such does not appear in the syllabus of McGill University at the B.A. or M.A. levels (except for a course on French Stylistics 44b, taught by Professor J. L. Launay), it ranks as a separate entry amongst the so-called "extension" courses<sup>(1)</sup>. These courses are open to students in possession of a degree (B.A., B.Sc., B.Com.) and to other persons who have successfully passed an entrance examination; they do not lead to a degree. The courses constitute a three-year series leading to a *Diploma in Translation*, involving one two-hour period a week. To gain the *Diploma*, first class standing must be obtained in translation from French into English and from English into French in the examinations at the end of the Second and the Third years.

¶ The purpose of these courses, as outlined in the syllabus, is "to assist students in acquiring or perfecting ease of style and propriety of vocabulary in translating commercial material — correspondence, reports, advertising matter, simple sales contracts and the like — from English into French and *vice versa*."

(1) McGill University, Department of University Extension, Evening Courses 1957-1958, pp. 3921-2923.

The fields of terminology covered are broadly those of trade, finance and business administration. These courses are designed to emphasize the fact that commercial translation requires both accuracy and elegance, together with a proper understanding of the principles of correct drafting and composition. A course of reading is recommended to the students. It includes standard remedial manuals and works of reference on the use of language and the art of translation."

The courses listed under B.51 to B.54 are open to First and Second year students; they are given by H. W. Mandefield, Gilbert H. King, Roy A. Field and F. Dufau-Labeyrie. A third year course, B.55, given by Miss L. Mabel King, deals with "general" translation, providing an introduction to translation work of a literary value. "Apart from the constant building up of indispensable vocabulary this course particularly stresses the stylistic aspect of English and French, and special attention is paid to synonyms, shades of meaning and the accurate rendering of the general tone of a page" (*op. cit.* p. 3923).

Members of the Montreal Translators' Society are registered at a reduced fee, and all translation course students are urged to join the Society, whose office is Room 246, Palais du Commerce (Show Mart), Montréal. [ Cf. the review of the Society's bulletin, *Argus*, on page 176 ].

