

## PUBLIC AIDS TO THE UNIVERSITY.

As it is apparent from certain recent public discussions that the financial position of the University, relatively to the Government, the public and the secondary schools, is not clearly understood, a few short statements on this subject may be desirable.

The total expenditure of the University in support of tuition in the Faculties of Arts and Applied Science was, for the last session, in round numbers, \$47,000, besides about \$3,000 in scholarships, medals and prizes to students. Towards this sum, the Government contributed from the marriage license fees and the grant for superior education, \$4,150; the remainder, or say \$46,000, being derived from the endowments of the University, private benefactions and fees. Assuming this amount to be expended in the education of, say, four hundred persons, the total cost per student to the University will be about \$115 per session for tuition alone, besides the expenses and annual interest on buildings, apparatus, etc.; and to the Province, but \$10.38, which is less than the cost of pupils receiving preparatory instruction in high schools.

On the other hand the fees in no case amount to more than half of the cost of instruction. In most cases, they are very much less than this and, as previously stated, 154 students receive free tuition.

Taking another view of these statements, it may be said that the whole sum received by the University from the Government is devoted to scholarships, exhibitions, free tuitions and other aids to students.

It is further to be observed, that the Faculty of Arts is the main source of qualified teachers for the higher schools and academies, and that the existence and maintenance of these schools is largely dependent on the possibility of advancing to a higher course either in the academical or professional faculties of the University.

From published Legislative papers we observe that the University of Laval has made a very strong appeal to the Provincial Government for pecuniary aid in the prosecution of its work. We observe also that the Laval University bases its claim not on its own statistics but on those of all the pro-