

# DALHOUSIE Gazette

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## What Price Aid?

Within the next few months, negotiations between the province and the Dominion government have been completed, distribution of the seven million dollars grant to the universities can be expected.

The step will make history in the Canadian educational system which has been firmly separated from control by the federal government since Confederation when it was placed in the hands of the provinces. For many universities, however, which have never received government aid it will be an even wider and strange step.

But if it is a new step the need for some change in the present system has become more and more evident since the end of the war when the university enrolment increased greatly without any equivalent increase in university budgets. The average expenditure per student dropped during this period from \$515. to \$433. at the same time as the cost of living increased 50%. The universities were unable to balance their deficit, by increasing tuition fees without being in danger of shoving the cost of a university education out of the reach of all but the children of well-to-do parents.

The case of the small college which depended entirely on public donations, gifts and fees was even worse than that of the larger universities which generally had some provincial aid for there is little prospect of any increase in public assistance in a period of high taxation.

Cognizance of the dire financial straits the universities found themselves in was taken by the Massey Commission of Arts, Letters and Sciences completed in 1951. In its report the Commission recommended that the federal government make annual contribution to support the work of the universities on the basis of the population of each of the provinces of Canada. The seven million dollars grant aid was made in reply to the suggestion.

What will the effects of said legislation be? Certainly its necessity cannot be denied for the continuance of the role not only in education but in the fields of communal activities it takes part in. This could not long have gone on without more financial aid.

But what of the possible bad effects? The feeling that the universities have betrayed their "heritage of glorious independence" by accepting federal aid may only be a matter of sentiment in a world that has small place for such an emotion, but there is more to be said than that. Will the universities, long a gathering point for the opposition to the "established schools and parties" continue as such? Will professors care or dare to openly attack the government which is giving them the butter for their bread? Even more will the university authorities attempt to prevent such attack for the sake of the butter and the fear that they might lose it with bad tactics. Will the university president raise to a position of importance on the staff a member of the faculty who has been openly attacking the government's policies?

Perhaps such questions are mainly academic but the danger is apparent, and we may well ask at some future date "What is the price of assistance?"

## U. S. Student Teacher Visits N. S. Schools

"An educational system superior to the United States" was the comment of a young student teacher, Helena Benham, at the conclusion of her three week visit to Nova Scotia during which she visited elementary schools along the South Shore and Dalhousie University.

A student at Danbury State Teachers College in Stamford, Connecticut, she came to Canada under a plan sponsored by the College whereby students are required in their freshman and sophomore years to put their books aside and for a three or four week period go into the community and work in schools for the handicapped, nursing schools, settlement houses, youth organizations, radio stations, newspapers, juvenile court, chemical labs and industrial plants or other such other places.

This 'Interim Program' often takes the students as far away from their parent college as California, Texas, Florida or even outside the country to South America and Mexico. Helena, was the only student, however, to come to Canada this year, where she undertook as a project an investigation into the educational system of the county.

She visited Dalhousie last week although the universities were not included in her regular study and was, she said, most favorably impressed. She was, she said, particularly surprised at the size of the university.

Her decision to come to Nova Scotia for her project as a sophomore this year—she was a nurses aid during her freshman period—followed upon a vacation in this province last summer. During her project period which extended from Jan. 21 to Feb. 8th, she visited schools in Halifax and Lunenburg and along the Eastern Shore. "A wonderful educational system and a wonderful people" were what she said a few days before she returned to Danbury where she will report on her visit.

The plan was originated by Danbury College for the purpose of emphasizing "concrete doing as well as abstract thinking" in the four years teachers course. In this way the College hopes to give students an opportunity to test and increase their understanding through first-hand experiences. "By working in real situations, meeting new people, students gain realistic insights and new interests which are a rich supplement and a stimulus to their classroom work."

## 40 Can. Students For ISS Seminar

Forty Canadian university students will represent Canada during the fifth International Summer Seminar to be held in India this year. Details were announced yesterday by the seminar's sponsor, the International Student Service.

One hundred and twenty students will participate in the seminar. Besides the Canadians, there will be forty from South East Asia and the same number from other countries.

The seminar will be held from May 28 to July 2. These of the five week program will be "The Human Implications of Technological Change." This subject will be discussed with special reference to the peoples of Asia, while comparisons will be drawn with other areas represented at the seminar, ISS announced.

In addition to the set program of study, the group will discuss with responsible officials some of the programs undertaken to meet the problems of the area. Among these will be irrigation projects, rural educational projects, and health centres. Discussion at the seminar will also include the philosophic and religious outlook of the Asian peoples.

**Abilities**  
The Canadian students taking part will be selected on the basis of leadership qualities and academic abilities, the ISS release said. Preference will be given to senior undergraduates and recent graduates who will be returning to a Canadian university in the fall.

The Canadians will be flown to India to arrive on time. They will receive scholarships including free board, room and tuition for the five-week program, and travel expenses to and from India. Director of studies will be Warden Nicholas Ignatieff of Hart House, Toronto. Assisting him will be three Canadian university professors, and members of university staffs from South-East Asia.

The Asian students will come from India, Pakistan, Burma,

## To Skate Or Not To Skate? That Is The Question



## The Education of Bill Jackson

*Bill Jackson was a college man  
A fact that we deplore  
And whenever he was devilish  
He could always make us sore  
By spouting at the table  
Some à la Einstein lore.  
He was clever, he was pompous,  
He was bambastically wild  
And in his very early years  
He frequently compiled  
A mass of facts and formula  
Unheard of in a child.  
But alas Bill was afflicted,  
And this is what we hear,  
By what the boys so deftly name  
"An unstimulated queer"  
The kind who thinks of ions  
While drinking up his beer.  
Which only goes to show you  
If it's degrees you crave  
You'd better learn to live a bit,  
Lest in life's fleeting fray  
You find that it has passed you by  
Unseeing, to the grave.*

Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, and Ceylon. The other forty students will come from the United States, European countries, Australia, and New Zealand.

In describing the aims of the seminar, the ISS release said it will not be a business conference

nor a meeting of a learned society, but "an international community group, joined together for a common program of study."

Application forms for Canadian students will be available from the National ISS office at 43 St. George St., Toronto.

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WRITE TO THE REGISTRAR for full information as to fees, courses, residence facilities, and dates of registration.

