

## UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

The Department of University Extension finds almost unlimited opportunities for carrying university teaching throughout the Province, but is seriously handicapped in developing these opportunities because of lack of funds. The lines along which work is now being done may be summarized as follows:

1. **TEACHERS' CLASSES, CORRESPONDENCE WORK, and SUMMER SESSIONS** to enable teachers in service to secure the Pass B.A. degree. From the point of view of the youth of the Province there is possibly no more important phase of university activity than the improvement of teachers' qualifications, and the teachers of Ontario are eager to take advanced courses. The enrolment this year is the highest on record because more teachers than before have learned of the existence of these courses. Increased publicity in the form of explanatory bulletins will augment the attendance at Summer Sessions and in Teachers' Classes far beyond the limits prescribed by the present size of the University staff. In a Province where there are almost 15,000 teachers it is not unreasonable to hope for enrolment in the near future of at least 1,000. A greater variety of subjects should be offered in summer courses, and by correspondence during the winter. The latter form of work necessitates, of course, a larger office staff.

The Extension Department does not confine its attention to holders of first class certificates only. Teachers with third class or second class certificates, or even with no certificates, are prepared by correspondence during the winter for the summer courses offered by the Ontario Department of Education; others are given assistance towards the commercial specialist's certificate.

When the degrees in pedagogy are included, it is no exaggeration to say that the Department of University Extension has something to offer to every teacher in Ontario. It is now serving two hundred teachers; with room for expansion it could serve ten times that number.

2. **LOCAL LECTURES.** There is a marked demand throughout the Province for single lectures and for courses of lectures. This demand would be very much greater were it more generally known that the University offers such service. The obstacles here are (a) the expense of publishing and distributing descriptive bulletins and (b) the meagre remuneration to lecturers. Most of the organizations that wish to have this lecture service have only limited funds at their disposal. By regulation of the Board of Governors the local organization is responsible for the lecturer's expenses and an additional sum of \$5.00; to this amount there is added another \$5.00 from the University's funds. Even the lecturer's expenses, plus \$5.00, is to most societies a large sum and prevents them asking for as many lectures as they would like to have. On the other hand, the lecturer who receives his expenses, plus \$5.00, from the organization and \$5.00 from the University, feels that he is rather poorly repaid for the time and energy expended and the inconvenience attendant upon his trip.

3. **TUTORIAL CLASSES.** Evening classes in English literature and in economics are being carried on for those in Toronto who may wish to take advantage of them. The fee charged each student is \$10.00 for the year's course and the number in any class is limited to twenty. The instructor receives \$200.00 for fifty hours' class work. This rate is not attractive to professors who are anxious to have time for reading and self-improvement, and it does not seem possible to increase the fee without reducing greatly the attendance.

One example of the limitations imposed by lack of funds may be cited. A request came for a tutorial class in Streetsville for the members of the Junior Women's Institute and the Junior Farmers' Institute of the surrounding district. These rural young people were anxious for some course—they scarcely knew of what type. A class was arranged, but the financial difficulty again presented itself, and it is not yet clear where the funds to pay the instructor are to be found.

For both the local lectures and the tutorial classes the service of one or two instructors, giving full time to this work, seem to be absolutely necessary. As at present conducted the system, or rather lack of system, is wasteful of time and money in comparison with the results secured. There seems to be more than enough work for two men—in Peel County alone there are six centres similar to the one in Streetsville. The Province could be literally dotted with tutorial classes for rural young people if a sufficient staff were available.

4. **WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.** Under this organization over one hundred and fifty men and women in Toronto, and over thirty in Hamilton, are being instructed by members of the University staff and others in such subjects as economics, political philosophy, psychology and logic, English literature, public finance, money and credit, civic administration. For lack of funds these courses have not been very fully advertised; more extensive advertising would treble the numbers. The instructors receive \$150 for fifty or more hours of work in class, but they all regard this as a form of public service and cheerfully accept the duty. (It should be noted that the two hours per week spent with tutorial classes of any type are only the minor part of the time involved—the preparation for the class makes serious inroads on the little leisure available to any university instructor).