

McMaster facing huge deficit

McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, is facing a 1975-76 deficit of over \$4 million as a result of the limited increase in grants to universities announced by the government of Ontario on November 18.

James Auld, Ontario Minister of Universities and Colleges, told the Legislature that provincial support to universities for the 1975-76 year would be increased by a flat 16.9 per cent to cover both inflation and growth.

McMaster's plight, explains President A.N. Bourns, arises from the fact that what appears on the surface to be a 16.9 per cent increase turns out to be an increase of only 7.6 per cent *per student*.

"This is because 5 per cent of the increase is for the increased number of students throughout the system and also because the provincial grant provides only a part of our income, the rest coming chiefly from student fees which the Minister has said are not to be raised.

"This net increase of 7.6 per cent is totally inadequate," Dr. Bourns declared. "Salaries and wages in Ontario have risen by 15 per cent in most cases and by substantially more in government-funded agencies such as hospitals. The province has rejected the universities' request for supplementary funding this year to help meet salary pressures coming through hospitals....

"After providing salary and wage increases commensurate with those being paid in the Hamilton community, the sample budget shows a deficit of over \$4 million.

"There is just no way in which a responsible university can contemplate a deficit or a cutback of this magnitude," declared Dr. Bourns. "McMaster is in a crisis situation."

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Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.

Ten-million dollar wheat subsidy

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan recently announced that a cheque for \$10,465,553.97 has been sent to the Ontario Wheat Producers' Marketing Board as payment under the two-price wheat agreement.

The money, which will be passed on to Ontario wheat growers with the final payment for their 1973 crop, is a subsidy to consumers to keep down the price of bakery products, Mr. Whelan said.

Canadian millers buying Ontario wheat pay \$3.25 a bushel. The Federal Government pays up to \$1.75 a bushel depending on the world price of wheat. Since the world price for winter wheat is currently above \$5, the full \$1.75-subsidy is being paid.

The recent cheque includes \$1.75 a bushel plus accumulated interest on this amount since the Ontario Wheat Producers' Marketing Board in Chatham, Ontario sold the wheat to millers.

Divorce rate climbs

Divorces granted in Canada rose 13.4 per cent to 36,704 in 1973 from 32,364 in 1972. The divorce rate *per 100,000* population increased 12 per cent to 166.1 from 148.3.

Both the number of divorces and the divorce rate rose in every province except Prince Edward Island. Alberta had the highest among the provinces — 263.5 divorces *per 100,000* population — followed by British Columbia with 245.7. Ontario, with a rate of 173.6, ranked third. All other provinces showed rates below the national average.

The Yukon Territory had the highest rate in the country with 300.0.

Ghanaian teachers train at the University of Regina

At the request of Ghana, the Canadian International Development Agency has contracted with the University of Regina for six Ghanaians to take a special 24-month program leading to a B.Ed. degree. All six Ghanaians are teachers with at least

five years' experience and all have a technical or technological background (civil engineering, handicrafts). The intent is to give the students training as teacher-educators before their return to their own country.

The special program, formulated by a committee of U of R Faculty of Education and Saskatchewan Department of Education officials with the co-operation of the Moose Jaw Technical Institute, will emphasize those things which will be supportive in the Ghanaians' work as teacher-educators in Ghana. The program is partly oriented to teacher education in technology and trades, partly towards curriculum studies, including statistics, computer science, psychology, methodology. The Ghanaians will also be given a broad range of contact with teacher-education courses in western Canada.

This program, which is the first of its kind, began in September.

Tax write-offs raised for investments in film industry

The budget presented in the House of Commons recently included provisions to increase federal aid to the film industry. The level of capital-cost allowances for investments in films is to be raised from 60 per cent to 100 per cent. Under this provision a taxpayer will be able to write off the full amount of his investment in the same year and against income from any source.

"Ongoing consultations with producers and investors in films have convinced me that incentives of this sort will attract the additional private capital needed to develop a viable film industry in Canada," Secretary of State Hugh Faulkner said.

Encouragement by the Federal Government to the private sector of the film industry in Canada amounts to about \$10 million a year, much of which is directed to production.

The Government's programs of support to the Canadian film industry are also concerned with ensuring the adequate showing of Canadian feature films and shorts in the country's movie houses, and with increasing participation by the Canadian Film Development Corporation in film promotion and distribution.