

Known as Service for Admission to College and University (SACU), the new agency assumed in May 1967 the responsibility for the production and administration of scholastic aptitude and academic achievement tests for English-language and French-language students proceeding from secondary school to university and other forms of post-secondary education. SACU had headquarters in Ottawa<sup>(6)</sup> and, initially, is using the facilities of two test-service centers (in Quebec city and in Toronto) to handle the mechanics of test development. The first Administration of SACU tests was held in February 1969, and consisted of an aptitude test and a mother-tongue achievement test in both French and English. Plans call for a series of Canadian tests in both English and French to be available in a few years.

Admission of students from outside Canada is arranged between the students and the universities concerned, and is based on individual evaluation of previous educational records. Evidence of ability to comprehend the language of instruction must be shown. In addition, pertinent regulations of the Department of Immigration must be met. These include proof of sufficient funds, good health, good character, and a certificate of acceptance by a Canadian university of college. The Canadian Department of Manpower and Immigration has issued a booklet entitled Admission of University Students to Canada: Immigration Requirements, giving further information; it is obtainable directly from the Department in Ottawa, or from regional superintendents of immigration.

Detailed entrance requirements for individual universities are given in the Commonwealth Universities Yearbook, published by the Association of Commonwealth Universities, 36 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1, England, as well as in the calendars of the various institutions.<sup>(7)</sup>

#### Academic Year

In Canada, the academic year is divided into two terms of four months and runs through the autumn and winter months, from September to April or May, with a vacation of about two weeks at Christmas and a short vacation at Easter. With few exceptions, Canadian universities enrol students for the regular winter session in September only; new enrolments are rarely accepted in the second term, although with recent interest in year-round operation of universities several institutions are studying the matter and a few admit students in other months than September.

Many universities are now practising a policy of early admissions, often accepting students on the basis of their high-school records, confidential reports from principals and results from aptitude and achievement tests. Within a few years, especially in Ontario, where the Grade XIII departmental examinations were given for the last time in 1967, these tests will become the common criteria for admission.

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(6) 151 Slater Street, Ottawa 4, Ontario.

(7) Offprints of the material in the Commonwealth Universities Yearbook are obtainable for 50 cents (for the 1968-69 edition) from the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, 151 Slater Street, Ottawa 4, Ontario.