

## Exchange Scholarships

McGILL students generally and the Students' Executive Council of McGill particularly have been accused in the very recent past, and with some good show of reason, of being noticeably indifferent to the activities of the National Federation of Canadian University Students (N.F.C.U.S.), the national organization of Canadian Universities which unites the Students' Societies of the majority of Canadian Universities and colleges. McGill is a member of this organization but few, if any, of the students of the university are aware of this fact. As a result it follows naturally that they are unaware of the work which the organization is carrying on or which it plans to carry on.

One of the more commendable undertakings of this organization is 'The Exchange of Undergraduates Plan.' This plan was initiated about seven years ago by the executive of the N.F.C.U.S. and came into operation six years ago, after the presidents, principals, registrars, and financial authorities of the various Canadian universities had consented to it. The object of the plan is to permit specially selected students to take one year's university work at a university—other than the 'home' university and in a different part of Canada. That these scholarships are proving popular with students of other universities, if not with McGill, is evidenced by the fact that over eighty students have taken advantage of them in the short period during which they have been available. And when we consider the advantages that are to be derived from a scholarship of this nature we can readily realize why this should be the case.

The average Canadian student who confines himself to one particular area has little opportunity for broadening his perspective. As a result he tends to become restricted in outlook, both academically and geographically. This Exchange Plan permits specialized study which otherwise would not be obtainable.

Under the plan the universities are divided into four groups: the University of British Columbia, the universities of the Prairie Provinces, the universities of Ontario and Quebec, and the universities of the Maritime Provinces. Scholarships are awarded only where a student of one university wishes to obtain a scholarship at a university in a different section.

The scholarships are open to men and women, who at the time of their application are in the second year of their course or, in the case of five year courses, in the second or third year. It is a condition of each appointment that the Exchange Scholar must return at the conclusion of his scholarship year to complete his course at his home university.

The requirements for the scholarship are such that any average student can present himself as a candidate with very good likelihood of receiving consideration. An Exchange Scholar is expected to be a representative of his home university in every way. It is not necessary that he should have a first-class academic standing but he must be a competent student who will be able to enter freely into the life of the 'exchange' university without fear of class-room consequences. It follows naturally that the preferred candidate would be one who would be fairly familiar with the activities of his own university and would be able to both give and take something in his relations with the university which he selects as his exchange venue.

McGill students have hesitated to avail themselves of this opportunity in the past. This may have been due to the fact that this exchange plan did not receive the publicity it deserved. This year, however, we are attempting to remove this disadvantage.

Students who are interested in obtaining information on particular points in connection with these scholarships will find it to their advantage to consult the local N.F.C.U.S. representative, Mr. G. H. Fletcher. Applications must be in his hands by March 1.

The scholarships have been praised by some of our noted Canadian educational authorities and are certainly worthy of consideration. We would strongly advise undergraduates of McGill to give them some thought and consideration. They will not regret having done so.