

With regard to the question of the Eskimos' survival, Father Buliard maintains that if their number continues to decrease they will become extinct. But on the other hand, if the government could realize the fact that diseases are killing off the Eskimos and provide them with the necessary supplies and equipment to combat these diseases, the population in the Far North would increase.

Inuk is a most interesting and thrilling book written by a man who does not hesitate to express his thought in clear, frank language.

—Arthur Seaman '56.

EDITORIALS

A NEW PROPOSAL

St. Dunstan's College, both faculty and students, has always been interested in measures which would provide better facilities for the student body and contribute to the betterment of the students in general. One of such measures was proposed to the student body during the first term of this year by the Cooperative Life Insurance Company in the form of a plan of group insurance for the students. Although this proposal has not become a reality, it may be of interest to outline the main features of the plan and relate the steps which have been taken thus far to inaugurate it.

The new plan provides life insurance, with coverage of \$2,500 in case of death under ordinary circumstances plus \$1,000 additional coverage if death occurs as a result of accident, for each member of the group. The premium which is paid for this amount of insurance amounts to \$10 which includes a basic charge of \$135 which is required for this Group Policy regardless of the number of members it includes. The plan is open to all members of the group regardless of their present state of health or past health history, because there is no medical examination required. This type of insurance may extend for a ten

year period which means that a student, upon graduation, can retain this thrifty insurance policy for the remaining years of the period if he or she continues payment of the premium through the Students' Union here. At the end of the ten year period, or before if one wishes, the policy can be converted for the same amount of insurance under any type of Life Insurance Policy desired, with again the distinctive facility of not having to undergo a medical examination. Finally, since the Insurance Company is a co-operative institution, dividends will be paid annually to the Students' Union, depending upon the earnings of the Company.

In order to acquaint the students with the new proposal and arouse some discussion on it, mimeographed sheets of information were distributed. At general meetings of the student body, the details of the plan were fully explained and any questions arising were answered by Messrs. Wilfred Driscoll and J. J. MacIsaac, representatives of the Insurance Company, as well as Father William Simpson of the Extension Department of the College. When it was clear what the proposal was all about, at a general meeting of the students, it was moved that the group insurance plan be inaugurated for college years beginning in the Fall of 1953, should it meet with the approval of the Faculty and the Board of Governors of the College. The motion gained almost unanimous support of the meeting. It was further decided that the most convenient way to collect the premiums from the students would be to include them in the tuition fees at the beginning of each term. To date, no decision has been announced by the Faculty or Board of Governors, but if the plan comes into effect, it will constitute another advantage featured by the College for the benefit of its students.

PEACE THROUGH RELIEF

It is a disturbing thought when one realizes that today two-thirds of the people of the world live in misery—misery which is unnecessary because of the advances in technology and applied sciences. For instance, one out of every twenty university students in Turkey suffers from tuberculosis and three to six percent of all students in Japan have the same ailment. The sad part of it is that

these students have absolutely no special facilities for their treatment. Besides, consider the malnutrition and lack of student facilities. In Istanbul where there are 14,000 students there are only two hostels accommodating 150 students with eight sleeping in each room. In Israel the student population at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem has increased by 600% in four years. Students attend classes in temporary quarters scattered throughout the city and many must cross the entire city on foot when going from one class to another. Similar situations could be pointed out in Lebanon, Egypt, Syria, Pakistan, Greece, Korea and Indonesia.

It is still more disturbing when we consider that it is in these university people that their country's leaders will be sought. Here will have to be found men and women who can help people shake off the vestiges of feudal subordination and with the help of modern science become self-sufficient. Progress depends on personnel with trained intelligence and the will to serve, more than anything else. In most places where the need is most urgent, the work of education and training in leadership goes on under the handicaps mentioned above. Those who labour against these great odds make a plea for a show of our concern for them, for our love and understanding, because it is our problem as well as theirs.

Indeed it is our problem, and the quicker we realize it and do something about it, the better for the world. Many of the countries where these situations exist, are now surging with a newly arisen spirit of nationalism—a force, if it is not directed, which could work to their detriment. Before this society can be convinced of the higher values of life, their quest for mere sustenance must be met. Only when we have helped these people wipe away their misery will we and they know what peace really means.

They are humans—we are humans. They are students—we are students. We have opportunities which they have not. We must work for the betterment of ourselves and society—they will also—if we give them a chance.

We have on our campus a means whereby we may do something DIRECT, CONCRETE, CONSTRUCTIVE, IMMEDIATE, EFFECTIVE and DUTIFUL. We have the obligation of getting behind our national and world stu-

dent organizations dedicated to the advancement of standards and ideals in the university community. Nations which were once colonial, distrust (and rightfully so) governmentally-directed assistance. In a world university organization where creed and race distinctions are lacking as well as political obligations, assistance is received in the spirit of the giver—that others might help themselves and thereby help the world.

"THE DESERTED VILLAGE"

It is generally accepted that there are many major problems facing the world today; we cannot sum up the situation by pointing to one specific problem. However, in the past few generations, a problem has evolved which is of such importance as to be regarded as "major". We refer to the situation posed by Oliver Goldsmith in his poem, "The Deserted Village", and which has been called in recent years "The Flight from the Land". In short, the problem consists in the over-centralizing of the industrial cities and towns due to the influx of rural youth from the rural areas and the varied and complicated effects which follow this movement. There is room for much discussion and comment on the many phases of this important topic but we shall be concerned here with just one phase, namely, the various aspects under which this problem is considered. It will be noticed that the different aspects derive from a consideration of the effects of the problem.

Some consider the rural problem from its economic aspect. There was a time in the early stages of the development of this movement when the opportunities for material prosperity in the urban centres were as real as they are apparent in our day. This served as the dominant influence which lured the youth of the countryside. There came a point in the development, however, when opportunity and security, with a certain population, reached a comfortable average after industry had expanded, as one would think, almost to its limits. Unfortunately, at this point the centralizing process did not halt but kept its steady pace. Some came to the cities directly; others came indirectly, that is, they came to the cities to receive an education and "having once tasted the apple" resolved to remain there. Hence there was no decentralizing process to

counteract the centralizing process. After another stage of development followed the inevitable results—the slums, the breadlines, unemployment, etc.

Others consider the rural problem from its social aspect. Following the same trend of development outlined in the previous paragraph and viewing the same consequences, we find some validity for this assertion. Society was divided into classes—the upper, middle and lower. As time passed, the plight of the lower class became more serious. Sociologists, sensing this unwholesome development, sought to alleviate or at least cope with the situation by attempting to satisfy in a direct way the essential needs of the indigent. Politicians saw the need for legislation providing for social measures—old age pensions for the aged, bonuses for children and compensation for the unemployed.

Despite these two considerations, we like to regard the rural problem from its spiritual aspect. This side of the problem is evident when we realize that the effects of the problem of the land are above all of spiritual importance. The over-crowding of the cities with the resulting plight of the poor brings with it a lowering of moral standards because as St. Thomas Aquinas asserted, "A moderate amount of material prosperity is necessary for the practice of virtue". The exodus to the urban centres reveals that people are substituting illusory glints of the city for actual conditions which greatly facilitate the leading of a virtuous life and which are to be found in the rural atmosphere. Our present Holy Father has pointed out that the small farm provides the best atmosphere conducive to virtuous living. Hence the reason for youth remaining in rural areas derives not merely from a natural and material motive, but especially from a supernatural and spiritual motive.

A single man has not nearly the value he would have in a state of union. He is an incomplete animal. He resembles the odd half of a pair of scissors.—Franklin.

Art, as far as it is able, follows nature, as a pupil imitates his master; thus your art must be, as it were, God's grandchild.—Dante.