

THE FUTURE OF GRADUATES

A student coming to St. Dunstan's from another province or country soon becomes aware of a very disheartening trend—that of students of this University, who are natives of this province, leaving P. E. I. as soon as they graduate. This can be verified by checking the activities of the graduates over the past several years; invariably we find them scattered over Canada and the United States; very few remain on "the Island". The common line of thought seems to be: "There's nothing to look forward to on P. E. I.; the only thing I can do if I remain here is to take up farming or fishing—and that is not the type of work which a college graduate is expected to do. Better opportunities beckon in the other provinces and in the United States."

One phrase of this statement we can agree with: at the present there are better opportunities in the United States and in some of the other provinces. But the fact remains that we only get out of anything that which we put into it and it is the graduates, the cream of the crop, who are expected to stay on the Island and develop it. Here we must use the over-worked saying that "times are not what they used to be"—today the educated people rule the world; they are the ones to whom the common people look for leadership; they are the ones who are expected to develop this province. When they leave they give their much needed services to lands other than the one which needs them most.

The so-called "menial" industries of farming and fishing, away from which the majority of graduates are drifting, are industries which have changed greatly from the times of our forefathers. The old saying that "A strong back and a weak mind" are all that are needed for these industries does not hold any more; farming and fishing have turned scientific; there is a continual cry for the services of more and more educated people—for more and more university graduates.

Thus we see that a small province like P. E. I. has its advantages for college graduates. They can live their lives successfully here, thus performing a twofold service—to themselves and to their province.

EDITORIAL.