

or a spiritual evolution, then, and only then can those who are advocating a distinctive culture for the Canadian nation hope to meet with even a token success.

—HENRY GAUDET '57—

YOUTH'S PURPOSE

Sad is our youth, for it is ever going,
Crumbling away beneath our very feet;
Sad are our hopes, for they were sweet in sowing,
But tares, self-sown, have overtopped the wheat.

Joys which, to us, in youthful years of pleasure
Are not confined to mortal's surly bonds,
Grow sad and die, when subject to life's measure
Of time, wherein all but the soul responds.

But sweet is youth when we have learned to prize it
And bear each trouble whether light or grave;
Not for its sake, for courtesy denies it,
But for the One whose excellence we crave.

—MARTY—

N. F. C. U. S.

In this article it is not the aim of the author to display his literary talents or the obvious lack of them, but merely to make N.F.C.U.S. better known to those who read **Red and White**. The organization is officially known as the National Federation of Canadian University Students, and, as the title implies, is the official voice of students from Newfoundland to British Columbia. It is composed of 23 member Universities representing over 45,000 students. The official organization consists of a salaried National President, who is a student, a Secretariat, four regional Vice Presidents, and the Committees on the local Campi.

The Federation was founded in 1926, ceased its activities during the Second World War, and resumed them again in 1946. Since that time it has met with varying degrees of success. The objects of the Federation as officially set down are very noble and are as follows:

1. To promote a better understanding among all Canadian University Students.
2. To promote a greater degree of co-operation and correlation among all Canadian Universities.

3. To provide a means for developing international student relations. No one can say that these are not indeed desirable aims.

Moreover, no one, it is thought, will deny that the principle behind the organization is a fine one, and that such a federation in fact could perform a definite function. However, not all agree on what form the organization should take, or just what exactly its function should be. As a result, many member Universities have shown dissatisfaction in various ways. Acadia, McGill and Manitoba left N.F.C.U.S. because of lack of confidence in the Federation and for various other reasons. Toronto, U. B. C. and U. N. B. threatened cessation on different occasions, and a few other members have registered complaints at one time or another.

Now, the reasons for this dissatisfaction have been, of course, many and varied, but in the final analysis the most prominent seems to have been a lack of understanding on the part of student leaders and students themselves of the aims of the Federation, and the great amount of good that such an organization could do. This lack of understanding was principally caused by a flaw in the set-up on many of the local Campi by which the committee chairman did not have representation on the executive of the Students' Council, and, as a result, was unable to reach the students efficiently. As a result, N.F.C.U.S. came to be looked upon suspiciously as an outside activity with outside interests, and as a result, the organization which had the interests of the Canadian student so much at heart, had no effective means of reaching him. On the contrary, the organization is one big Students' Council with the individual Universities as members. The interests of the Universities are the interests of N.F.C.U.S. and the problems of the individual students are its problems.

In the past year, this flaw which had caused so much trouble in the years gone by has been remedied on most Campi. The Chairman of the N.F.C.U.S. Committee has been given a seat on the Students' Council Executive and furthermore, the Presidents of the Students' Councils have been established as the official representatives of their Universities at all N.F.C.U.S. gatherings. This move has given the Federation much more prestige than it formerly had, when the Committee Chairman, who probably had no voice on his own Campus, was the official representative. The change paid great dividends at the last National conference, held in Montreal in October, which was hailed as probably the most successful ever held.

Another strike which N.F.C.U.S. has had against it for some time is an economic one. There have always been complaints, especially from individual students, that they pay fifty cents a year to the organization and get nothing from it. Now the point is this, N.F.C.U.S. has never pretended to justify its existence by material benefits to the individual student. However, the fact

is that
cents v
of the
al ad

Th
Federa
in dire
forts s
is worl
ment
the ot
tained
is at t
ions f
Burea
air an
are ex
N.F.C
a stud
at a U
tuition
St. D
able
also
to pu
iness
ivitie
test,
Univ

bene
and
organ
it is
truth
truly

brin
try I
have
spir
conf
the
whic
izati
stay
at t
apol

is that the Federation saves the students many times over the fifty cents which it costs to belong. Economic assistance is only a part of the Federation's program. It also offers cultural and educational activities and has done its best to promote student interests.

The big financial project of the Federation is in the field of Federal Aid. For years N.F.C.U.S. has worked for an increase in direct federal grants to the Universities and this year their efforts seem finally to be bearing fruit. At present, the Federation is working with the federal government to set up a scheme of government scholarships and bursaries comparable to those existing in the other major countries of the world. The organization has obtained reduction on transportation fees, and textbook costs, and is at the present time trying to obtain further income tax reductions for University students. N.F.C.U.S. has also set up a Travel Bureau which offers the lowest rates available in trans-Atlantic air and ocean travel and European student tours. These tours are extremely economical and are expertly arranged and conducted. N.F.C.U.S. also offers an inter-regional scholarship, which enables a student from one of the four regions of Canada to study for a year at a University in one of the other regions, waving his registration, tuition and Students' Council fees. The Atlantic region, to which St. Dunstan's belongs, offers a regional scholarship of \$500 tenable at a different Maritime University each year. N.F.C.U.S. also sponsors a Student Discount Service which enables students to purchase goods at reductions of 10 to 15% at the various business firms in the University town. In the line of cultural Activities, N.F.C.U.S. sponsors an Essay Contest, a Short Story Contest, an Art Contest, and a Photography Contest for Canadian University Students, offering valuable prizes in each.

However, although the Federation provides such material benefits, it is the intangibles of which it is justly proud. The ideals and principles are indeed praiseworthy and from the spirit of re-organization which the Federation has experienced in the past year, it is apparent that N.F.C.U.S. has indeed a bright future. In truth, an organization of over 40,000 University students could truly be a potent one; all it needs is the support of the individuals.

And where is N.F.C.U.S. today? It appears to be on the brink of doing great things. Students' Councils across the country have at last recognized the need for a National Federation and have accepted their responsibility in forming it. There is a new spirit of co-operation, very much in evidence at the last national conference, among the 23 members. Acadia University, out of the Federation for some time, has rejoined this year. Councils which only a few months ago were planning to quit the organization—Toronto, and U. B. C.—have decided resoundingly to stay in. There are also a few new members joining—Memorial at the conference, and probably Loyola, Sherbrooke and Marianapolis in the near future. And, universities that have left it in

recent years—Montreal, McGill and Manitoba—are considering rejoining the Federation because of the recent spirit of revitalization. Its potential for the future is certainly great.

And what about you? Have you an interest in Canada as a National Unit? Have you an interest in Student Government? If you have, and as a university student you should have, then consider what N.F.C.U.S. is; not only what you can get out of it, but what you can contribute to it.

—MICHAEL SWIFT '58—



Tom Swift

The Autumn season has passed and Winter has inevitably moved in to take its place. As the Winter edition of the *Red and White* goes to press, our two principal sports, basketball and hockey, are the centres of attraction, replacing the Fall versions of athletic endeavour. Hockey at Saint Dunstan's is experiencing its ups and downs this season, but a revived basketball team is rapidly capturing the imagination of its supporters.

The hockey team, under the capable direction of A. J. MacAdam, is entered into two leagues again this year. The squad has been eliminated from the drive towards the N.B.—P.E.I. title in the intercollegiate circuit. In city league play, they were nosed out of a playoff spot when they dropped a late season decision to the Basilica Youth Club.

The basketball team is also entered in two leagues. In addition to their customary intercollegiate encounters for the N.B.—P.E.I. title, the same team made a determined bid for the Maritime Junior Basketball Championship.

HOCKEY

Hockey has been viewed with renewed interest in Charlottetown since the formation of the City league in the Winter of 1953-1954, after a lapse of several years. Since this re-organization, hockey fans have been treated to an exciting brand of hockey, featuring local players in a usually well-balanced league. The