

Having considered the question of scholarships, I make the following suggestions for consideration:—

(1.) That a Joint Scholarship Board be established for the purpose of preparing a complete scheme of scholarships on behalf of the colony in primary, secondary, technical, and university education. The Board to consist of members nominated by the Education Department, University Colleges, Education Boards, technical schools, secondary schools, and primary schools. The Board to organize and conduct all examinations for the award of scholarships, selecting examiners, and making all such regulations as are necessary for the conduct of the work; the expenditure to be met by annual grant from the Education Department, contributions from educational authorities, and candidates' fees.

(2.) Suggested scholarship scheme: (a) Primary scholarships for primary-school scholars, tenable at higher-grade schools, secondary schools, or continuation classes; (b) secondary scholarships for scholars of higher-grade and secondary schools and continuation classes, tenable at technical schools, art, science, farming schools, or commercial classes; (c) university or higher technical scholarships, tenable at special institutions, or for travelling scholarships.

*Section A.*—Primary scholarships are now awarded by the various Boards of Education, tenable mostly at high schools and colleges. I suggest that these scholarships should, in addition, be tenable at evening continuation classes and higher-grade schools where established. That, in addition, in each district in which art schools are established drawing scholarships should be awarded—say, fifty, available for one year, of the value of 10s. and free instruction for half a day in the art school; twenty of the fifty to be available for a second year under similar conditions, and to be of the value of £1. In each district where domestic-economy classes are established fifty domestic scholarships to be offered—the expenses of country scholarship-holders being paid to the nearest centre. Limit of age to be fifteen.

*Section B.*—Secondary scholarships: I would suggest an increase of the number of scholarships now awarded by secondary schools, the additional scholarships to be available among the higher-grade schools or continuation classes—the value ranging from £20 to £35 per annum; the scholarships to be tenable at the university colleges, mining schools, farm schools, commercial school, or technical schools; a limited number—say, ten free studentships—also to be granted in each district. Limit of age to be twenty.

*Section C.*—Technical and art scholarships: In connection with the technical and art schools I suggest, where such schools are established,—

*Art Section.*—Each district: Five free studentships in evening classes, tenable for two years; five scholarships in evening classes, tenable for two years, of the annual value of £5; two free studentships in the day classes, tenable for two years; two scholarships in the day classes, tenable for two years, of the annual value of £10. Open to the whole colony: Three scholarships, tenable at any art school in the colony approved by the Board, day and evening classes, for two years, of the annual value of £50; one travelling scholarship, of the value of £125 per annum, tenable for two years in any English or continental school approved by the Education Department, the holder to return to the colony upon the completion of the scholarship. The free studentships and scholarships to be offered alternate years.

*Science and Technology.*—Each district where technical schools are fully established: Ten free studentships, tenable for two years in the evening classes, to be divided amongst students in the plumbing, engineering, building, electrical, chemical, and mining classes; ten scholarships, of the annual value of £5, tenable for two years in the evening classes, to be divided in a similar manner. Open to the colony: Five scholarships, of the annual value of £50, tenable for two years at special institutions, providing complete courses of instruction, one in each of the following sections: Engineering, architecture, chemistry, electricity, and mining. One travelling scholarship, of the value of £125 per annum, tenable at any British or continental school approved by the Education Department for two years, the holder to return to the colony upon completion of his scholarship.

*Agricultural Scholarships.*—Eight scholarships, of the annual value of £50, to be tenable at the Canterbury Agricultural College for two years, with a possible extension of one year. Six of these scholarships to be available to lads of the school farms, if established.

*Commercial Scholarships* to be arranged for when provision is made for appropriate instruction. I would suggest that the limit of age for all the above sections should be twenty-five years.

I do not suggest that the whole of the scholarship funds should be provided by the Government; a sum of about £2,000 should be so provided. That amount is exceedingly small in comparison with the benefits likely to be generally derived. Assistance would be rendered by the Education Boards of the colony from ordinary and technical capitation, and efforts should be made to interest the employers, trades-unions, agricultural societies, and chambers of commerce in such a scheme. It would be greatly to the advantage of such societies, as well as to the cause of education, that such should be the case. I have no hesitation in recommending the suggestions I have made for consideration, for I am assured by the highest educational authorities of the value of scholarships and the beneficial effects of co-operation in the matter of a system of education having such widespread results and advantages.

Scholarship schemes to be successful must cover a wide area. The conditions should be as simple as possible, and the examinations uniform, full information being circulated by every possible means. It is for this reason that I suggest that a Scholarship Board be established.

In Appendix C will be found the regulations of the London County Council referring to their scholarship scheme, which will, no doubt, be of considerable value in assisting those intrusted with the formation of any particular scheme of scholarships devised on the colony's behalf or by individual districts or schools. I would advocate the selection of candidates (especially in agricultural, science, building, and other sections) more by special recommendation, and less by examination, where it is possible to do so; and in the art section, particularly, by the merit of works done by students.