

SUMMARY OF THE WORKING OF THE PLAN IN THE COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

Australia is both an awarding and a nominating country under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan, which is jointly administered by the Department of Education and the Australian Development Assistance Agency.

The number of scholarships current as at 30 June 1975 was 163. As in previous years, a large proportion of scholarships taken up in Australia were for postgraduate studies. Scholars studying for Ph.D. degrees were offered awards for a period of up to three years, but, as in the past, consideration was given to requests for extension of awards. Awards were also tenable for bachelor degree studies for courses not available in the candidates' own countries. For information on courses available in Australia the publication A Directory of Courses is available to nominating agencies and at Australian diplomatic posts. Three Visiting Fellows and two Visiting Professors took up senior awards in Australia during the year.

Competition among graduates in Australia for awards offered by other Commonwealth countries continued to be keen. As at 31 March 1975 there were 97 Australians studying in other Commonwealth countries under the Plan.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

The machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in the Bahamas remained unchanged during the period under consideration.

Response to advertisements has been generally encouraging and it is worthy of note that much greater interest has been expressed in these awards than the number of applications received would seem to indicate.

Unfortunately, one award was not taken up owing to communication difficulties and another had to be cancelled because of conflicting interests.

The recent graduates are performing very well in their respective areas of endeavour and all factors would seem to indicate that they have benefited considerably from the training provided under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan.

BANGLADESH

No report received.

BARBADOS

There has been no change in the administrative machinery of the Plan during the period under review. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, continues to advertise offers of awards as they are made available. The National Scholarships Committee, which is appointed by the Minister of Education and includes representatives of business and professional organizations, interviews the applicants and makes its recommendations, which are placed before the Minister for his consideration.

It is hoped that more awards could be made available at undergraduate level in some of the areas of study not available at regional institutions, for example: Pharmacy, Dentistry and Veterinary Science.

There are no proposals for the publication of an official report on the operation of the Plan.

BELIZE

The Ministry of Education continues to be the official agency of the Plan in Belize. The Plan affords excellent opportunities for postgraduate training although our nominations are not always successful. While postgraduate studies are becoming more and more popular, especially as regards the United Kingdom and Canadian awards, Belize has been putting more emphasis on undergraduate training. Training at the undergraduate level is still our most pressing need.

Belize has no universities or colleges of higher education and therefore cannot make any awards. Offers of awards were received from the United Kingdom, Canada, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago, Australia, Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

Belize is continuing to derive much benefit from the qualifications and expertise gained by returning Commonwealth Scholars who hold important positions in both the public and private sectors.

So far no official report has been written on the operation of the Plan in this country.

BOTSWANA

No report received.

BRITAIN

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom under the chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. Lord Garner, G.C.M.G., continued as the official agency of the Plan in Britain, the secretariat being provided by the Association of Commonwealth Universities, whose Secretary General, Sir Hugh W. Springer, K.C.M.G., C.B.E. and Assistant Secretary General, Mr. E. E. Temple, act as Joint Secretaries.

The Commission received invitations from twelve countries to nominate British candidates for their awards. The availability of these awards was announced in the press and at universities throughout Britain and, as a result,

197 applications were received. As usual, short-listed candidates were interviewed by panels consisting of Commission members and representatives from the High Commissions of the awarding countries. As a result nominations were made to each of the twelve awarding countries and the applications of 53 candidates have been sent forward. Following the 48 nominations made during the previous reporting period, 26 awards were offered and 21 candidates took up awards in five countries.

The major part of the work of the secretariat concerns the Commission's function as an awarding agency. In the year under review the Commission has had its task of selection made more laborious by the failure of some agencies to submit the requisite documents in support of their candidates' applications. The absence of one or all of references, plans of study, and university transcripts makes impossible an assessment of a candidate's merits and jeopardizes his chance of being awarded a Scholarship. The Commission would also be grateful if nominating agencies would adhere to the number of nominations for which they are asked, because that number is much larger than the number of awards available and this provides a wide field from which a further selection must take place.

The Commission makes available general, Medical and Academic Staff Scholarships which do not differ in their general terms of tenure or emoluments (a table of emoluments is given in Appendix II). A Scholar spends from one to three years in the United Kingdom and Scholarships are normally given for the completion of one qualification only. The Commission's terms of reference enable it to follow the guiding principle that no Scholar should be refused an extension (within the maximum tenure of thirty-six months) to make possible the completion of the qualification for which the award was originally made. However, the Commission is concerned to note that many Scholars find difficulty in completing the Ph.D. degree within the thirty-six months thus allowed, especially if they are asked to complete a master's degree course as a necessary preliminary or are tackling a subject which does not directly follow on from previous studies. It would probably be more realistic for candidates without a relevant master's degree to think in terms of a master's degree only. The Commission adheres to the view that it is not the purpose of the Plan to encourage candidates to study in the awarding country for periods over three years though, where a Scholar can obtain support from elsewhere for a few months for the completion of the degree for which the award was held, the Commission is willing to defer the payment of the homeward fare with the agreement of the nominating agency.

Academic Staff Scholarships are intended for candidates nominated directly by the Head of their employing University in conformity with that University's staff development plans. For the second year running new selections were made on the basis of a fixed intake of 48 per year. The system makes forward planning easier but means that there may be less flexibility with respect to extensions of tenure for the holders of these awards. The Commission tries to act in close consultation with the Scholars' home universities though the vagaries of the postal service as well as the increased number of authorities involved mean that these Scholars often have to wait a particularly long time for decisions. Interim information sent by nominating universities, even where they cannot give a decision, is much appreciated. In the statistical tables in the appendices, Academic Staff Scholarships are included with the general Commonwealth Scholarships. In view of their distinctive purpose we give below a separate analysis of these awards. Of the Academic Staff Scholars present during the first term of the 1975-76 academic year, 53 were over 28, 27 between 26 and 28, and six were aged 25 or below; five of them were women.

Academic Staff Scholars holding awards during the first term
of the 1975/76 academic year by subject

Country of permanent residence	Arts	Social Studies	Pure Sciences	Technology	Medicine	Dentistry	Agriculture and Forestry	Veterinary Science	Total
Bangladesh		1	5	2	1		3	1	13
Botswana	1								1
Fiji	1								1
Ghana	1		4	2					7
Guyana	3	1		1					5
Hong Kong	1			1					2
India	6		5	1			1	1	14
Jamaica	1								1
Kenya		1							1
Malawi	1								1
Malaysia		1	4	3	1	2			11
Malta	1								1
Mauritius							1		1
Nigeria	3	2	5	2	2		1	1	16
Sierra Leone			2						2
Singapore		1				1			2
Sri Lanka			2						2
Swaziland	1								1
Tanzania			2				2		4
Total	20	7	29	12	4	3	8	3	86

The distribution of the 86 among the United Kingdom universities was as follows: Aberdeen 4; Aston 1; Birmingham 2; Bradford 1; Bristol 3; Cambridge 3; Dundee 2; Durham 1; East Anglia 1; Edinburgh 2; Essex 1; Exeter 1; Glasgow 2; Hull 1; Keele 2; Kent 1; Lancaster 1; Leeds 7; Liverpool 2; London 17; Loughborough 1; Manchester 1; UMIST 1; Newcastle 3; Nottingham 2; Oxford 1; Reading 7; Southampton 3; Stirling 2; Strathclyde 2; Surrey 1; Sussex 3; Wales 3; and National College of Agricultural Engineering 1.

Academic Staff Fellowships, of which 50 were available in 1975, are intended for qualified and established university teachers for study related to the requirements of their home departments. They are awarded for a period of one academic year from October to July and in view of the pressure on the Commission's resources this has to be regarded as a maximum tenure and no extensions have been granted. Fellows and their host departments are thus asked to plan their programmes carefully with the length of tenure in mind.

The Commission continued to make available awards for training at various levels in the field of medicine, the main aim being to further medical education in the Commonwealth. A total of 43 new Medical Fellows took up awards, a total differing little from that of previous years. The majority of applications for Fellowships came from India, which consequently attracted the greater proportion of awards. Applications from other parts of the Commonwealth continued to be most welcome. There was a substantial demand for Senior Medical Fellowships, but applications were often rejected because they failed to fulfil the conditions of the awards.

The most senior award under the Plan is the Commonwealth Visiting Professorship. During the year under review the Commission received 56 nominations by 29 British universities for awards tenable during the academic session 1976-77. Five Visiting Professors took up awards in the academic year 1975-76 and they are listed in Appendix IV.

At the beginning of the 1975-76 academic session, 555 Scholars were holding awards together with five Visiting Professors, four Senior Medical Fellows, 42 Medical Fellows and 45 Academic Staff Fellows, making a total of 651.

The Fifteenth Annual Dinner for departing Scholars and their wives was held in July 1975, the guest being Dr. Rosemary Murray, President of New Hall and Vice-Chancellor-elect of the University of Cambridge. The welfare of Scholars and their families, travel arrangements and the payment of emoluments continued to be the responsibility of the British Council which, with the Commission's collaboration, arranged a three-day programme in London for new arrivals in September. The Commission held two more regional conferences which are designed to bring together award holders and their supervisors with members of the Commission, its secretariat and academic advisers. The twelfth conference was held in Oxford in December 1975 and the thirteenth in Cardiff in March 1976.

The 251 Scholars whose awards expired during the period 1 April 1975 to 31 March 1976 are recorded as having obtained 54 doctorates, 48 master's degrees, 14 postgraduate diplomas, nine bachelor's degrees and 13 higher medical qualifications awarded by bodies other than universities. It is hoped that further results will be received and a revised list of results obtained by Scholars in this group will be available for inclusion in the Seventeenth Annual Report. Twenty Scholars were engaged in research not for a degree and eight resigned their awards; four failed the examination for the degree for which they were registered. It should be noted that figures give the number of qualifications and this may include more than one qualification for a small number of award holders.

An interim account was given in the Fifteenth Annual Report of the results obtained by Scholars whose awards expired during the period 1 April 1974 to 31 March 1975. The 231 Scholars completing the tenure of their awards during that period are now recorded to have obtained 75 doctorates and 36 other higher degrees, ten postgraduate diplomas, seven bachelor's degrees and nine higher medical qualifications. Twenty-five Scholars were engaged in research not for a degree; six Scholars resigned their awards, two failed their examinations and the remainder are either still studying for their degrees or awaiting assessment of their theses.

Bermuda

During the year under review, Dr. Kenneth E. Robinson, O.B.E., Ed.D. retired from the post of Chief Education Officer and simultaneously relinquished the role of administrator of the Plan. The address of the agency continues unchanged.

During the period under review one Bermudian has been awarded a two-year Scholarship to pursue doctoral studies in mechanical engineering in the United Kingdom.

The Plan has been very beneficial to Bermudians as Bermuda has no university. Former recipients of Commonwealth Scholarships are currently making noteworthy contributions to the community.

British Solomon Islands

No report received.

British Virgin Islands

The Plan is still administered by the Chief Minister's Office, with the B.V.I. Scholarship Committee as the selection agency.

The views expressed last year with regard to postgraduate awards and the apparent bias against dentistry still hold good. We would like to reiterate that there is need for Scholarships for courses in dentistry, as there are no regional institutions offering such courses.

No official report on the operation of the Plan is published separately. The Plan continues to receive mention, along with others, in the annual report of the Department of Education.

Brunei

No Commonwealth Scholarships or Fellowships were awarded to Brunei personnel for the year 1975-76. The Brunei Government itself finances its official scholars and in-service trainees studying outside the territory.

Falkland Islands

No report received.

Gibraltar

The Government of Gibraltar is satisfied with the working of the Plan and no additions or changes have been made in the machinery set up for its administration.

It would like to nominate more applicants for awards to a wider range of Commonwealth countries but finds difficulty in the context of its staffing requirements since most of the applicants are in Government Service occupying key posts and there is a need to replace them during their course of study.

No official report has ever been published nor is one envisaged in the future.

Gilbert Islands

On 1 January 1976 separation was effected of the Ellice Islands from the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. There now exist two nominating territories in this region, viz. The Gilbert Islands Colony and the Colony of Tuvalu. This statement is concerned only with the Gilbert Islands.

Awards are made available in the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, mainly for the training of Primary School Teachers outside the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. Advice of available courses is generally received in the year of nomination although on occasion the notice given is rather short. In this territory of sixteen scattered islands linked by poor communications such short notice can create considerable problems in the mustering and documentation of candidates. The Handbook of Selected Courses in Education in Britain produced by the Ministry of Overseas

Development is an extremely useful document. It is always received by us in good time and greatly facilitates our forward planning. The provision of similar handbooks for available courses in Australia and New Zealand would be very valuable additions to our literature on Awards.

Awards are made available on an occasional basis under the Plan by other Commonwealth countries, for example: Canada, India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka. These awards are invariably for postgraduate studies and are of little use to this territory. Our needs in the short and middle term are for undergraduate studies in teaching and education administration, and advanced non-graduate teacher training. A particularly valuable inclusion would be the provision of attachments to the staffs of Commonwealth Teacher Training Colleges. This would meet a real need locally for training-college staff possessing perhaps minimal qualifications and/or experience.

A final observation might be made on documentation. A simplification of this process would be very helpful. Some of the official nomination forms are formidable both in content and in number.

Hong Kong

The Education Department of the Hong Kong Government is responsible for the formation of the Selection Committee, the membership of which, as in previous years, represents a good cross-section of higher and secondary education in Hong Kong together with the local representatives of the various Commonwealth Scholarship awarding countries. The Chairman of the Committee is the Dean of the Graduate School of a university and the Secretary is an Education Officer of the Education Department. Hong Kong continues to derive much benefit from this Plan and one of the criteria used in selecting nominees for awards is the usefulness and relevance of the proposed research programme to the needs of the Hong Kong community. Competition for the awards is very keen and the quality of applicants continues to be high.

As an awarding country, Hong Kong offers postgraduate Scholarships tenable at the two universities. The Education Department of the Hong Kong Government acts as the administrative agency which appoints the Selection Committee and liaises between the Committee members and the two universities in all matters relating to the Hong Kong awards. There are at present six Scholarship holders studying for higher degrees in Botany, Chinese Grammar, Chinese Language, Inorganic Chemistry, Mechanical Engineering and Social Science. Three awards were made during the period under review.

Extension of tenure of awards beyond two years to enable Scholars to study for the Ph.D. degree or for other purposes is considered in each case on its own merit.

New Hebrides

The New Hebrides will commence its first form VI in 1977. Until this output reaches degree level the requirements of the New Hebrides will be below that generally provided by the C.S.F.P. There are only a very few graduates in the Territory and although interest in postgraduate courses is shown by them, the weight of their present responsibilities often precludes the possibility. Such courses which offer undergraduate studies within the Plan will become of initial importance to us both in the purely academic and technical fields. Certainly, as far as this Territory is concerned, we are still very largely

obtaining training at the post-form III level but this will largely cease at the end of this year and we shall be looking for courses at the para-professional level of form V entry, most candidates for which could not be considered as suitable university material. The nominating and awarding operation has been most satisfactory with regard to the two persons from the New Hebrides who have benefited from the Plan so far. We look forward to greater participation in it.

There should be a reasonable demand for awards for undergraduate courses by 1979; and we shall then be looking for support from what we hope will be a Plan adapted to our needs.

St. Helena

No students have so far proceeded abroad under the Plan. The Commonwealth Education Study Fellowship Scheme caters for teachers; and other schemes cater for short courses for skilled men.

There have been no applications for the awards offered under the Plan because none of the local people meet university entrance requirements.

The West Indies

Leeward Islands

Antigua

No report received.

Montserrat

The Plan appears to be operating satisfactorily. It is considered that it should continue to be restricted to postgraduate study save in very exceptional cases to be determined on their merits, as other training awards can usually be obtained from alternative sources. With effect from September 1975, where Government nominates one of its employees for a Scholarship or Fellowship he is paid full salary for the duration of the course, less any boarding, lodging and maintenance allowance provided under the Scholarship.

No official report has been published or contemplated.

St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla

There has been no alteration in the machinery of the administration of the Plan, or in its general working, for the period 1 April 1975 to 31 March 1976.

No official report will be published on the operation of the Plan in this State.

Windward Islands

Dominica

For the period under review (1 April 1975 to 31 March 1976) there have been changes neither in the machinery set up to administer the Plan here, nor in the title, nor in the address of our Commonwealth Scholarship agency.

As a nominating country, we think that too rigid adherence (which some awarding countries seem to practise!) to the Plan's paramount aim of training at the postgraduate level can inadvertently result in the ironical situation where the "developed" Commonwealth countries benefit disproportionately more than the "developing" countries by being better able to take advantage of postgraduate training offers than the latter.

What Dominica is crucially in need of is well-directed and purposeful training at the undergraduate level. In view of our present stage and level of development, postgraduate training, except in a few fields, is not necessarily imperative. And given the international economic squeeze to which we are an especial victim, the easier availability of Commonwealth Scholarships to pursue undergraduate courses would assist us immeasurably in achieving our development goals.

This implied shift in the Plan's policy would also require the extension of the duration of an award to, say, between three to four years. Provision should also be made for certain types of technical and scientific training that require longer periods for completion, even if that may mean a decrease in the number of awards made over an extended period!

The emphasis in the CARICOM area, to which we belong, is shifting from the strictly academic, "classical", and erstwhile "professional" type of university education to relevant modern professions and technical training. We also seek to "integrate ... the world of study with the world of work", especially at the undergraduate level. It would be a boon if the Plan and the awarding countries would afford us an opportunity to achieve this objective.

During the period under review two Commonwealth Scholars returned to Dominica: Mrs. K. Polydore, having obtained the M.Ed. at Leeds University in the United Kingdom, now acting Principal of the Sixth Form College, the country's sole and Government owned institution for preparing candidates for the G.C.E. 'A' level examination; and Mr. Wolsey P. Louis, having gained the M.A. (International Relations) from the University of Lancaster in the United Kingdom, now back at his desk as Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Health.

No official report on the operation of the Plan, in this country, has been published, and none is contemplated.

St. Lucia

No report received.

St. Vincent

No report received.

CANADA

The Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee continues to be the official agency of the Plan in Canada, with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada providing the secretariat. In the year under report, the Government of Canada, which provides the funds for the Plan, approved an increase in the Living Allowance to \$ 330.00 per month. Other increases are noted in Appendix II.

During the past year the Canadian Committee received invitations from eleven countries to nominate Canadian candidates for their awards. These competitions attracted 321 applications, from which 82 were selected for nomination. As an awarding country, 251 nominations were received, from which approximately 100 winners have been chosen. Canadian academic institutions submitted 28 nominations for the Visiting and Research Fellowships, from which three Research Fellows and five Visiting Fellows have been selected.

It has become increasingly evident that many candidates nominated for Canadian awards are of the opinion that the award is a certainty; this, of course, is not so. If the nominating agencies will refer to the report on the First Commonwealth Education Conference, when the Plan was established, it will be noted that "the number of nominations submitted should be substantially in excess of the number of places likely to be available". It is most important that nominating agencies advise their nominees to this effect and also of the fact that the final decision will be made in the awarding country.

Canadian awards under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan will continue to be offered at the graduate level; the undergraduate awards may also be offered where the course of study is not available in the candidate's home country (with the exception of the first medical and dental degree).

CYPRUS

Cyprus has no institution of university level and, therefore, she is only a nominating country under the Plan. The Scholarship agency continues to be the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The responsible authority for selection of candidates for nomination continues to be the Scholarship Board, c/o Ministry of Finance, Nicosia.

Commonwealth Scholarships are given wide publicity in Cyprus and they attract a large number of applications.

During the year under review Australia has made two awards for undergraduate studies in Medicine and Commerce; New Zealand has awarded one scholarship for postgraduate studies in Human Geography; and Britain made four awards for undergraduate studies: one for Civil Engineering, two for Economics, and one for Sociology. All the other Commonwealth countries which invited such nominations have not yet confirmed their awards.

Britain has extended the awards of three scholars up to July 1977 to enable them to complete their B.Sc. degrees in Chemical and Structural Engineering and Physics respectively.

During the period covered by the report one scholar completed his studies in Britain, having obtained his B.Sc. in Civil Engineering.

FIJI

No changes have taken place in Fiji's machinery for dealing with C.S.F.P. awards. There is very little demand in Fiji for persons with postgraduate qualifications. The main employer of persons with higher degrees is the University of the South Pacific, which is rapidly developing its own staff development programme. We would therefore welcome any move aimed at adapting the Plan to support more undergraduate studies and training for professional or technical qualifications.

THE GAMBIA

No comments.

GHANA

There has not been any change in the administration of the Plan since 1975. No new awards have been instituted, though there have been increases in the emoluments of the present Plan. For the time being we think that the Plan should remain principally a scheme for Postgraduate University study. Considerable benefit is derived by the Scholars from the training and experience gained abroad on the programmes, and after their training abroad they are placed in very responsible positions.

GRENADA

No report received.

GUYANA

The administration of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in Guyana continued to be the responsibility of the Public Service Ministry. In anticipation of the receipt of invitations from awarding countries to submit nominations, a general advertisement was made inviting applications from suitably qualified candidates for awards to study in the Commonwealth country of their choice.

When the formal invitations were received, the applications were processed in the normal way and the most suitable candidates were interviewed by the Scholarship Selection Committee. The Committee comprised the Deputy Permanent Secretary, Public Service Ministry as Chairman, the Chief Education Officer, Ministry of Education as Deputy Chairman, the Chief Training Officer, the Chief Personnel Officer and the Principal Training Officer of the Public Service Ministry, the Principal Personnel Officer of the Public Service Commission and the Principal Assistant Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister.

Besides scholars who received extensions to continue their studies, five new postgraduate awards were made as indicated below:

Shaker Hussein, M.Sc. Agricultural Extension, Univ. of Reading, U.K.
Tarachan Singh, M.Sc. Applied Social Studies, Univ. College, Cardiff, U.K.
Lloyd Holder, M.A. Maths/Computer Science, Univ. of Waterloo, Canada.
Irma King, Ph.D. Education Theory, O.I.S.E. Ontario, Canada.
Grantley Walrond, M.Sc. Mineral Economics, Univ. of Alberta, Canada.

Guyana must express its gratitude to the Commonwealth Nations who have continued to consolidate the bond of friendship by the maintenance of the facilities for the exchange of knowledge through the Plan.

INDIA

Fifty awards are offered annually by the Government of India to Commonwealth countries under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. During the report year, 20 scholars joined different universities in India under this Plan. No new awards were instituted. The working process and administration is the same as it was in previous years. Excepting one information booklet Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (Indian Awards) 1976-77, no official report on the working of the Plan was published by the Government of India.

JAMAICA

The local machinery for administering the Plan remained unchanged in the course of the year, except for the fact that the Ministry's Scholarships Section changed its address. For direct delivery of mail, the following address should now be used: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Attention Scholarships Section, 97A Church Street, Kingston, Jamaica.

As an awarding country Jamaica continued to offer its one postgraduate Scholarship. There were only three nominations from two countries but the calibre of the nominees was high.

In order to be able to submit nominations for overseas awards in good time we advertised for and processed applications considerably earlier than in previous years and this seems to have affected the number of applicants in some instances. To us it seems advisable for the Plan to remain primarily for post-graduate work but with sufficient flexibility to accommodate undergraduate studies where desirable.

Generally the courses pursued by Jamaican Scholars are relevant both to their own needs and those of the Island. However, it is sometimes only with much difficulty and after protracted correspondence that a student is accepted for placement in the course most relevant to him/her. It appears that the placement aspect of the programme is not sufficiently flexible, especially in the case of Fellowships.

It is felt that only in very exceptional cases should the tenure of an award exceed three years. Occasionally permission is sought to proceed to doctoral studies after a Scholar has spent two years acquiring the Master's Degree. Whilst Jamaica never objects if the awarding country agrees, it is recognized that a doctorate is not always relevant and that there have been instances in other scholarship schemes where students, after obtaining this qualification, have pointed to the unavailability of "suitable" employment here and hesitated to return home.

KENYA

No report received.

LESOTHO

No report received.

MALAWI

There has been no change in the administration of this scheme in this country and the figures reflect those of last year.

MALAYSIA

The Malaysian Liaison Committee continues to function at the same secretariat under the Ministry of Education of Malaysia as the processing agency for the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in Malaysia. The Committee comprises the following:

Chairman: Director General of Education, Malaysia
Members: Vice-Chancellor, National University, Malaysia
Vice-Chancellor, University of Malaya
Director of Training, Public Services Department, Malaysia
Secretary: Principal Assistant Secretary, Scholarship and Sponsorship Section, Ministry of Education, Malaysia.

The Committee met thrice during this period, once in June 1975 to nominate candidates for New Zealand Awards 1976-77, in November 1975 to nominate candidates for United Kingdom, Canada, and other awards 1976-77, and in February 1976 for Indian Awards 1976-77.

At the moment we have three Scholars holding our awards and following their respective courses at the University of Malaya:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year of Award</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Course</u>
Mr. Geoffrey W. H. Davison	1974	United Kingdom	M.Sc.
Mr. David K. W. Ssonko	1974	Uganda	M.Econ.
Miss Susan Lily Broomfield	1975	Australia	M.A.

Mr. G. W. H. Davison and Mr. D. K. W. Ssonko will be leaving for home in October this year, after completing their Master's degrees. They will be replaced by other scholars taking up 1976-77 awards for which 17 nominations have been received from twelve Commonwealth countries. Scholarships taken up in Malaysia are mainly for postgraduate studies.

The Committee, on the other hand, received invitations from eight countries to nominate Malaysian candidates for their awards. Competition among graduates in Malaysia for these awards continued to be keen. A number of extensions for Ph.D. degrees have been granted to Malaysian Scholars holding awards in other Commonwealth countries. Malaysia is still unable to embark on any other subsidiary programmes and at the moment offers only Scholarships at postgraduate level.

MALTA

The administration in all aspects for the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan is still entrusted to the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee, which sits under the Chairmanship of the Director of Education.

In the year under report six new Scholarships were awarded to Maltese students: one from Australia (Organic Chemistry); two from Canada (Architecture and Economics); one from New Zealand (Economics); two from Britain (Medicine). Seven Maltese Scholars continued to hold their awards overseas; and six new nominations were made for 1976 awards.

Malta awards one Scholarship under the Plan, tenable at the Royal University of Malta or the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology, to one Scholar from any country in the Commonwealth to enable him to read for a first or a higher degree. A candidate from Hong Kong terminated his studies in June 1975 and obtained a degree in Medicine. A new Malta award tenable as from October 1975 was advertised in all Commonwealth countries. The selected candidate did not take up the Scholarship and this is being re-advertised to be tenable as from October 1976.

As a rule all Commonwealth Scholars return to Malta on completion of their Scholarships. They are making valuable contributions in the fields in which they have been trained.

Publicity to notices and other material in connection with these Scholarships is given through press releases and other means of communication (radio, television and the local relay system).

MAURITIUS

The procedure in Mauritius has continued as before. Mauritius, as a nominating country, has always made a plea that awards should be made for more undergraduate courses since the local university does not offer the whole range of first degree courses; the courses available at present being mainly in Agriculture and Administration.

No official report as such has been published on the operation of the Plan, except that the statistical data is included in the Annual Report of the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs.

NAURU

No report received.

NEW ZEALAND

The Commonwealth Scholarships in New Zealand continue to be administered by the New Zealand Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships Committee with the secretariat provided by the University Grants Committee. There has been a slight alteration in the address and correspondence should be sent to the Secretary, New Zealand Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships Committee, University Grants Committee, P. O. Box 12-348, Wellington North.

As a nominating country the number and calibre of applicants for Scholarships offered by Britain, Canada and Australia remain high but there continues to be little interest shown in the Scholarships offered by other Commonwealth countries.

As an awarding country difficulty is still experienced in receiving fully complete applications by the closing date. In some instances also, no adequate academic record is supplied and in one or two instances Scholarships have been taken up by people who it was found did not have the basic academic requirements for the course they obtained the Scholarship to follow. Again we find people applying for Scholarships to undertake study which cannot be carried out in New Zealand - for example a wish to study coral reefs. Up-to-date information about opportunities for study in New Zealand was widely distributed during the year. In the main, however, it is felt that those who do come here have gained something from the experience.

Visits under the Prestige Fellowships scheme are still popular and during the year our visitors were Professor H. G. Johnson, until recently at the London School of Economics, and Professor R. Quirk from the Department of English, University College, London.

NIGERIA

The Plan is still administered by the Scholarships Section, Federal Ministry of Education, Lagos. The administration of the C.S.F.P. in this reporting period remains basically the same as in the last reporting period. Interviews were held in London for Nigerian applicants in the United Kingdom. Results of all interviews were assessed together before decisions on nominations based on the manpower needs of Nigeria were reached.

It can be seen from the statistical part of the report that Nigerian Scholars are still highly interested in the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. Other Commonwealth countries offer too few awards to accommodate those well-qualified and eligible Nigerian candidates interested in the Plan. It is frustrating to conduct rigorous, time-consuming and expensive interviews for a very small number of places - places which sometimes take so long to arrange that the delay causes our nominees to lose hope.

There are still 15 Scholars holding the awards offered by this country. One award was made for undergraduate studies. Two extensions have been granted: one for M.A. work, one for Ph.D.

As an awarding country some of our beneficiaries have brought up the question of delay in the payment of their allowances by their university bursars. The problem here is that we pay Scholars' fees and allowances on receipt of bills from the universities and in some cases these bills have not reached us in time. We are working out a new scheme whereby bills on behalf of our Scholars will reach us in time for early settlement. There have also been a few cases of complaints from our beneficiaries about lack of accommodation in the universities' halls of residence. In such cases we have always appealed to the appropriate authorities to give preference to our Commonwealth Scholars.

Our decision whether to extend an award is based on the report on the Scholar submitted by his supervisor and head of department.

We are of the opinion that the C.S.F.P. should remain principally a scheme for postgraduate university study but where the need arises, as in the case of developing nations, the Plan should accommodate the training of

professional and technical manpower.

Most of our Commonwealth Scholars come home to Nigeria at the end of their courses abroad. Our universities, teaching hospitals and research institutes continue to benefit from the higher academic and professional expertise acquired by the beneficiaries of the C.S.F.P. as these institutions still remain their biggest employers.

Nigeria has benefited from the C.S.F.P. as a source of much-needed training for the high-level manpower for her national development. We support its continued existence and enlargement.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

No report received.

RHODESIA

Due to current circumstances it has not been possible to include a report on the working of the Plan in Rhodesia for 1975-76. The number of Rhodesian Scholars studying in other countries is included in the statistical tables in Appendix V. The applications for awards tenable in Britain in the coming academic year were received through the Overseas Development Ministry in London.

SEYCHELLES

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan is of minimal value to the Seychelles as a nominating country for the following reasons:

At the moment, applications are considered on their merit. Nominating countries cannot be certain that candidates put forward will be successful in gaining awards. The result is that, in Seychelles, we nominate only low priority candidates for the C.S.F.P. and we enter our better candidates for other scholarship schemes under which we are more sure of being successful. I strongly recommend that the C.S.F.P. be modified to provide a degree of certainty to nominating countries that at least a specific number of candidates proposed would be selected provided they fulfil entry requirements.

The C.S.F.P. as a rule concentrates on postgraduate awards. In countries such as Seycehlles, there is also an acute need for undergraduate studies and training for professional or technical qualifications. In fact, the pool of graduate talent available in Seychelles is so small that we are often unable to find suitable candidates for nomination. Our needs are in the up-grading of personnel already in post.

SIERRA LEONE

No additions or changes have taken place since April 1975 either in the working of the Plan or in the machinery set up for its administration in Sierra Leone. Offers of Scholarships from awarding countries were given wide publicity in the Sierra Leone Gazette, the local press and radio. Candidates were interviewed by the Scholarship Awards Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Education Officer.

Owing to the present financial difficulties, our plans of becoming an awarding country this year have had to be shelved for the time being.

The Plan has been working quite satisfactorily, and we think it should remain principally as a scheme for postgraduate studies. But we would welcome some adaptation of it so as to accommodate a sizeable proportion of awards for undergraduate studies, especially in the professional, technical and commercial fields where there is a shortage of manpower.

Invariably, our Commonwealth Scholars who have successfully completed their studies have returned home to take up responsible posts in institutions of higher learning as well as in the public and private sectors of our national development.

No official report has so far been published in this country. But with the recent setting up of a publicity section in the Ministry of Education, efforts in this direction will be made in due course.

SINGAPORE

The Public Service Commission continued to administer the Plan. There were no changes in the administration of the Plan during the period under review.

Seven new awards were granted to Singapore by Australia, Hong Kong and United Kingdom. They were for postgraduate studies in specialized fields such as Engineering, Dentistry, Medicine and Social Science (Social Deviance). One candidate in Canada and another in United Kingdom had their awards extended to enable them to complete Ph.D. studies.

Commonwealth Scholars have benefited considerably from their studies in the respective countries and are able to make a more effective contribution upon their return to Singapore.

SRI LANKA

The Ministry of Education continues to be the Agency responsible for the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in Sri Lanka. No additions or changes have taken place in the existing programme. The Government has increased the amount of monthly stipend payable to Scholars studying in Sri Lanka on Scholarships awarded by the Sri Lanka Government. Sri Lanka has not experienced any special problems during the period under review either as a nominating country or as an awarding country. It is felt that the Plan should continue to remain principally a scheme for postgraduate university study.

Though Sri Lankian students awarded Scholarships by other countries enter into an Agreement with the Government of Sri Lanka undertaking to return to Sri Lanka on completion of their studies and to serve the Sri Lanka Government for a period of a fixed number of years, it has been noted that some of them, after returning to Sri Lanka and working for short periods, give up their employment in Sri Lanka and accept employment abroad. They are able to do this because the Agreement provides for them to encash their Bonds. In other words, they pay back the cost of the training to the Sri Lanka Government and obtain release from the Agreement or Bond. In order to reduce this type of brain-drain, it would be helpful if Commonwealth countries would at least decide not to employ Scholars who are under a Bond or Agreement to serve their respective Governments till they complete the period of stipulated service with their respective Governments.

SWAZILAND

No report received.

TANZANIA

No report received.

TONGA

The Department of Education still continues to administer the Awards under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan and no alterations have been made regarding its operation.

Tonga has not yet reached the stage where it can provide tertiary education and therefore has remained a nominating country.

As previously, Tonga's requirements are mainly for first degree courses and candidates are more readily available for this level than for postgraduate courses. To acquire more awards for training in Economics and Commerce, Medicine and Science for teaching is still our main concern.

As our nominees are selected in accordance with the needs, economic development and manpower requirement of the country, Scholars returning after completion of study under the Plan are of much benefit to Tonga.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

In addition to the procedures already laid down with respect to the Administration of the Plan in this country, each Scholar nominated by this country and accepted by the awarding country is required to sign an agreement providing for service with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in such capacity and at such remuneration as the Government may determine upon successful completion of the award.

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago continues to offer one postgraduate award in Tropical Agriculture annually at the University of the West Indies, Trinidad.

There has been no activity in the field of visiting fellowships or other senior awards.

Commonwealth Scholars who have been nominated by this country and who have returned to this country during the period under review have taken up or resumed duties in professional posts in the Public Service or in private enterprise.

No official report on the operation of the Plan in this country has been published by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago.

UGANDA

The administrative machinery for the selection of candidates remained the same as in the previous year. Efficiency was high. Although the overall number of applicants was reduced from that of previous years, because the awards were advertised exclusively for postgraduate courses in view of the manpower requirements of the country, the interest shown was very keen indeed. In fact a number of applicants were rejected on account of their chosen fields rather than low academic qualifications.

As in the previous year, most of the nominations were in Scientific, Commercial and Technical fields with only three for further legal studies leading to the award of Master of Laws degree.

Candidates for undergraduate courses continue to be absorbed by our National Universities in East Africa.

Once again, we are very grateful to all the member countries which offered us training facilities under the Plan, for their co-operation and continued interest in our development. We, however, note with regret that a number of countries ask for more nominations than the actual awards they offer us.

The calibre of applicants for the awards continues to be high as the administrative machinery processing the awards insists on higher qualifications than are demanded by the donor countries. Returning Scholars are continuously absorbed in the Civil Service, parastatal bodies and academic institutions, depending on their education achievements and individual interests.

WESTERN SAMOA

The Scholarship Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister continues as the official agency of the Plan in Western Samoa with the Prime Minister's Department providing the secretariat.

The manpower need in Western Samoa demands training at undergraduate level. The graduates we have find difficulty in being released from their jobs for further training because of the shortage of qualified people to fill the positions. It is found that when graduates are granted leave, the required training is for professional or technical qualifications. In a few cases either the qualifications held by these graduate nominees are not recognized in the awarding country or the technical training cannot be arranged. It would be appreciated if the awarding countries could attempt to accommodate these special needs.

Western Samoa has been able to nominate candidates for Scholarships offered by Britain and Australia but can still find little interest in offers from other parts of the Commonwealth. Preference for New Zealand as place of study is often indicated by applicants. But unfortunately New Zealand does not offer C.S.F.P. awards; this is probably due to the fact that they already grant substantial amounts for bilateral Scholarships.

Returned Scholars comment favourably on their training and make valuable contributions to their respective departments.

Western Samoa is grateful to those countries which invited nominations from her and hopes she will be able to submit more nominations to utilize the assistance offered.

ZAMBIA

The administration of Scholarships has continued to be the responsibility of the Bursaries Committee in the Ministry of Education during the period under report.

No changes have been made in the existing programme during the period under review. The Government of the Republic of Zambia has made no decision yet to take on the responsibilities of an awarding country.

In view of the increased number of graduates from the University of Zambia and others, we would be most grateful if the donor countries offered us more Scholarships at postgraduate level. There is also a need to adapt the Plan to support training for professional or technical personnel.

No problems have been experienced. The returning Fellows have benefited quite a lot from the Plan.