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INTRODUCTION

This number of the *Journal of the Faculty of Arts* concludes the first four issues which together can be bound in one volume for which we have provided an index.

We are satisfied that this Journal has justified its existence not only because it has provided the Faculty of Arts with an organ of communication, but also because it has created the possibility of an exchange scheme with several British and Continental Universities.

Malta, like other Mediterranean countries, boasts an ancient civilization of which we are naturally very proud. Our great enemy is isolation. An exchange scheme of university publications helps to diminish the hazards of isolation and its main cause, insularity. For this purpose we have invited British Universities to join our exchange scheme. Several have responded to our appeal. The exchange scheme brings to our University Library for undergraduates' and public benefit also the publications of several continental Universities. Every University has something of its own to give to another University elsewhere.

Hence the need for an extensive inter-University exchange scheme and greater human contacts at all levels, not least at the academical level.

THE EDITORS