

REPORT ON THE BOARD OF STUDENT ADVISERS

March 31, 1931.

The work of this board is divided into two parts:-

- (1) The registration and advising of first year students on the days of registration.
- (2) The advising of students during the session.

The first of these appears to be performed in a highly satisfactory and useful manner; but the second, although serving a useful purpose, is only partly successful, and is subject to difficulties and to criticism.

With reference to (1):The Registration.

A small registration committee advises each student in turn and directs his, or her, registration, after an interview, and an inspection of the information on his, or her, application form. Each student is assigned at this time to an adviser for the session, on whom he, or she, is advised to call from time to time, and particularly when in any difficulty in regard to progress or plans.

The registration work (under the immediate charge of Professor R. R. Thompson) appears to have reached a high state of efficiency, after many years of successive changes and improvements. At present it meets the full approval of the Dean, the Registrar, and, (as far as can be ascertained) the students. The success of the scheme is mainly due (1) to the standardization and simplification of the numerous details of registration procedure; (2) to the present provision of adequate clerical and stenographic assistance; (3) to the active support and approval of the Registrar, and (4) to the experienced services of the registration sub-committee during a rather gruelling period of four days.

With reference to (2):The advising of students during the session.

The majority of the staff has from six to ten students allotted to each of them as advisees. It is assumed that a student should be led to regard his adviser as a friend who will give him personal attention and advice gladly, rather than as a University official to whom he is compelled to give an account of himself. This part of the work of the board has so far met with only partial success and considerable failure. It is estimated, however, that a sufficient number of students take advantage of, and profit by, this scheme to justify its continuation even in its present form; but some members of the board question its utility, or find that consultations are rare. Others take an active interest in their advisees, and a few see them once a month or more.

An adviser may be unable to meet his advisees often, for