
T H E U N I V E R S I T I E S R E V I E W

Second Section. Student Affairs. (a) Conditions of access to the universities.
(b) Student health services.

At 3.30 p.m. in the room of the Science Faculty. Chairman: Professor McLean (Cardiff).

Under the first heading delegates were invited to give accounts of any recent changes which had taken place in their countries regarding conditions of access to the universities, Herr Richard Oechsle, in charge of student service in the University of Heidelberg gave an account of the principles in vogue in present-day Germany in the selection of entrants to the universities and the fostering of talented students.

Dr. Oechsle emphasized four aspects of these questions:—

- (1) The national, political foundation of the selection and further care.
- (2) The education of German youth before the stage of university studies.
- (3) The methods by which selection and care are carried out.
- (4) The student health service.

Under the first heading Dr. Oechsle emphasized the view that the function of the universities is to train leaders and that leaders may come from any rank of society. Selection is therefore a question of character as well as of scholastic attainment, and has an eye to a student's future social value. This limitation of entry has nothing to do with overcrowding, which has for some years been prevented. In the second place, this type of selection means that the schools have to give greater importance to character training. An important agency in this connection is membership of the *Deutsches Jugend*. The channels of admission are, firstly, a pre-selection in the school and then work-service for a year before matriculation. For those who are physically unfitted for hard labour the work-service is replaced by an *ausgleichdienst* of a suitable nature. There are also requirements of a hygienic order which must be fulfilled. Necessitous students may be supported either by the State, by the university itself, or by the *Studentenbund*. The national student service (*Reichstudentenwerk*) also undertakes the free preparation for university life of young working-class men, who have shown superior qualities in the pre-university stages, by means of special courses at certain university centres, lasting for one to one and a half years.

Under heading (b) the following information was laid before the Section. The health services in Italy were explained in detail by Professor Gabalvi, the head of the Section of Professors and Assistants in the *Associazione Fascista della Scuola*.

INFORMATION ABOUT HEALTH SERVICES IN UNIVERSITIES, GIVEN TO SECTION II.

AMERICA (United States).—A service of medical inspection and treatment exists in many universities. In some cases the students contribute to this and in others it is run entirely by the university. The details are very variable in different institutions.

Each university has a medical adviser, usually controlling or acting in collaboration with a Department of Physical Education, and with medical professors or local medical practitioners. The health service includes regular medical examination of all students and a medical consultation service with clinical and diagnostic facilities. Hospital treatment may be either free or at reduced rates. Hygienic education is also provided. The service is partly supported by student contributions of \$5 per annum or upwards.

In eleven institutions the student health service is available also for teachers.

In twenty-eight institutions there also exists a special health service for members of the Faculties, and in some places this includes their wives and children. This service is usually organized as a contributory "association" with subscriptions of \$1 to \$2 per month. Free medical treatment is provided for members, with hospital accommodation at \$1 per day.