

GRADUATE DEGREES IN EDUCATION

by Professor F. Clarke.

M.A. Degree

The present scheme for an M.A. degree in Education should be regarded as purely tentative and experimental. It has value as asserting the principle of taking the study of Education in a graduate year, and as affording a means whereby teachers working in the schools can advance their competence and increase their qualifications. Thus of thirteen students registered this year (1930-31), all but three are actually teaching, and of these three one (the holder of the Overseas Studentship) is doing some little teaching at Macdonald College. (N.B. Two other students began the year as full-time students and have since taken teaching posts).

Difficulty has arisen, and under present conditions must continue to arise, in assessing the eligibility of applicants to proceed to the M.A. degree. Education as an M.A. study is not in the same position as other subjects that figure prominently in undergraduate courses. It is therefore less easy to appraise the quality of a candidate for registration. Moreover, since Education should always be, in the main, a study to be taken up only at the graduate stage, some difficulty in this regard will always remain. Usually a candidate who has not reached a high standing in some subject or subjects of undergraduate study will not do good work in the graduate study of Education. But this will not be the case invariably. The subject itself is so diverse and the accidents and mischances of the undergraduate