

results. It is only by united action in some form that denominational influence can exercise any legitimate effect on national education. If the cooperation of colleges under the Control of various Christian Churches, with one maintained by the State in the interests of all, lend effectual aid in sustaining a high moral and religious tone among the undergraduates, one all-important aim will be accomplished. On the other hand, I look to the conflict of opinion, and diversities in teaching, resulting from the healthful rivalry of Colleges acting in concert as affiliated members of one University, for protection from the stereotyped rigidity which has been charged as the danger of all national systems. This is, indeed, already guarded against in no inconsiderable degree by the honor departments of the University scheme, which not only encourage different lines of study, but give fair scope to the intellectual specialist, and leave to all students some choice in the determination of their undergraduate course.

But there is another evil, the product to a large extent of modern appeal to examinations as the supreme test of all qualifications for office or appointment. It has been questioned if Walpole, one of the foremost financial ministers, could have satisfied a modern civil service examiner; and as to Wellington, he would certainly have been plucked by the martlets of the Woolwich board. Examinations have their proper place in every collegiate system. I know of no better substitute as a test of actual work done in the lecture room and laboratory, especially when conducted by experienced teachers. But the extremists have not only effected a divorce between examiner and teacher: they would fain substitute examination for the teacher's work. With such the ideal University of the future is a Board of Examiners and a file of text-books. Under this influence rival programmes outvie each other in the multiplicity of prescribed book-work; nor can I claim for our own curriculum an absolute exemption from the taint. Every system, whether for school or college, is objectionable which relies mainly on the perfecting of educational machinery, and fails to leave scope for the personal influence of the teacher. Some prescribed course is indispensable.