

## The Subject of Matriculation in the Engineering Faculty Report

The entrance standard was changed in the session 1928-29 to that of Senior Matriculation, or Junior Matriculation followed by the First Year in Arts. This change provides us with students averaging one year older at entrance to our Faculty, which by reason of some greater maturity should be an advantage to the technical student. It also affords an opportunity for broadening their education in important subjects not bearing directly on many phases of their technical work, such as English and languages. Our experience does not convince us that the course in English, either in Senior Matriculation or First Year Arts, is well adapted to the needs of students entering our Faculty. In view of the importance of the ability of an engineer to express his arguments and conclusions in a terse and logical manner, this is a serious defect. We believe that it should be possible to alter the requirements without lowering the standards in English, and we urge that proper consideration be given to this question.

We are likewise not convinced that the entrance requirements in mathematics are equal to those of Junior Matriculation (including advanced mathematics), which applied formerly. Although we recommend that advanced mathematics be offered in Junior Matriculation into Arts by those students who intend to enter this Faculty, it is evident that this course is not followed in all cases, and less ground is now covered in some branches of mathematics, such as trigonometry, than was covered under the former plan by those entering our Faculty direct from the schools, with Junior Matriculation.

It is to be feared that the interest of engineering students in cultural subjects is not great at the outset of their studies, but gains strength as they come to perceive more clearly the relations of such studies to technology, industry and professional life. It is possible that in an effort to reach the substance, we have caught only the shadow. The careers of students entering our Faculty under different qualifications are being followed closely, and while the new system has not been in effect long enough to enable us to judge fully of its effects, there appears to be reason to believe that the possible gain due to cultural studies has been offset to some