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IT has been for some time a question with the members of the Senate as to how they could best aid teachers who desire to obtain a degree, but find it impossible to take the regular College course. The first practical attempt to afford this aid is to be made this summer. The Senate has decided to open a summer session in the departments of Mathematics, Philosophy and Classics, provided that at least five persons make application in one or more of the departments. This session will last for six weeks during the school vacation. The departure is not altogether a new one, as such sessions are common in the United States, and seem to give great satisfaction. While not relieving the teachers of all the disadvantages they labor under it should give them great advantages as compared with their former position. No doubt it will enable many good men in the teaching profession to obtain degrees which they could not otherwise hope to get. It remains to be seen how many will take advantage of the offer.

THE recent criticism on America and the Americans by Mathew Arnold, whose death the whole literary and artistic world must deplore, seems to have considerably excited some of the criticised. Undoubtedly, however, the resentment expressed by the newspapers is not shared in to the same extent by the great body of the people. The newspapers naturally enough cry out most loudly being the most severely criticised. Looking at his remarks from an impartial standpoint we must say that taken in a general sense as applied to the dominant characteristics of American civilization his criticism is in most cases well founded. This is not to say that the criticism applies to every American citizen or every part of the country, and to point this out is not a refutation of his statements. Again he does not set up England as an ideal of perfection as compared with America, though he does refer to several points in which it is superior; chiefly, however, through conditions of time and place. In the essentials of social and intellectual life he is as ready to criticise his own land as America. Little fault can be found with the justness of his direct criticism, the evils are only too obvious. Yet reasonable objection might be taken to the very scant acknowledgement of the many special virtues of the American people. These are quite different from most that is interesting, as he calls it, in older countries, still they are even more interesting in their own way, and especially with reference to the future of the people. Without doubt the worldly spirit is very strong in the Americans and mammon worship prevails. Still they are a new peo-