SCIENCE

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MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

UNIVERSITY REGISTRATION STATISTICS.

A COMPARISON of the figures on the table with those for 1902 (SCIENCE, N. S., Vol. XVI., No. 417, December 26, 1902, p. 1022) will show that at the majority of the institutions given in the table the number of students enrolled during the present academic year represents an increase over the registration of last year. Several institutions have suffered a slight decrease in attendance and the general gain is not as marked as it was last year, yet on the whole the figures point to a normal and healthy growth, and the steady forward movement in the progress of higher education has continued virtually unchecked. Undoubtedly the present economic conditions of the country are partially accountable for this slight falling off in the percentage of general increase, but the effect, if any, can scarcely be regarded as serious, and would, in the ordinary course of events, not be felt keenly until next year.

The statistics given on page 738 are, with few exceptions, approximately as of November 1, 1903, and relate to the registration at twenty of the leading universities throughout the country. In order to avoid all misapprehension, it should be distinctly understood that the higher institutions of learning here represented are not necessarily the twenty largest or the twenty leading universities, but all are in-

upon the matter.* He brings wide knowledge, unbiased judgment and unusual critical acumen to his task, and the result is a work of marked distinction. The various contentions of automatism, parallelism and interactionism are successively examined, and after the expurgation of all fallacies, the residuum of uncontroverted doctrine is elaborated into the theory of psychophysical idealism—a theory closely akin to the panpsychism of Fechner, Clifford and others.

Psychophysical idealism inverts the materialistic view, in accordance with which the brain is the reality and consciousness a mere unsubstantial phenomenon, and maintains that the mind is the reality—the thing-in-itself—of which the brain is the phenomenal manifestation. This sounds at first like a very naïve form of subjective idealism, offensive to all persons of Dr. Johnson's persuasion and to many others less strenuous. And idealism it is, but by no means naive in the arguments upon which it is based, including, as these do, scholarly considerations of the nature of causation and the law of the conservation of energy, discussions of the pertinent facts in physiological psychology, etc. An adequate critical analysis of Professor Strong's theory is evidently out of the question at this time. It should not be forgotten, however, that theories of this type, while avoiding the crass incongruities of the common forms of materialism, the inconsistencies of interactionism and the inconclusiveness of parallelism, are nevertheless incessantly haunted by the ghost of solipsism. If the solipsistic position be accepted, it then requires a constant miracle, of the kind resorted to by occasionalism, to account for the orderliness of the physical cosmos upon which we are all so unanimously agreed. Whether Professor Strong has wholly avoided the treacherous solipsistic pitfalls, the reader must decide for himself.

JAMES ROWLAND ANGELL.

*'Why the Mind has a Body,' by C. A. Strong, The Macmillan Company, New York, 1903, pp. x + 355.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

The Journal of Comparative Neurology for October contains five papers, as follows: (1) 'The Neurofibrillar Structures in the Ganglia of the Leech and Crayfish, with Especial Reference to the Neurone Theory,' by C. W. Prentiss. Establishes fibrillar continuity between the nerve elements, confirming in this respect the conclusions of Bethe and Apáthy. (2) 'On the Increase in the Number of Medullated Nerve Fibers in the Ventral Roots of the Spinal Nerves of the Growing White Rat,' by Shinkishi Hatai. The total number of medullated fibers in the ventral roots of the adult is 2.7 times that of the rat ten days old, and at all ages the total number of medullated ventral root fibers decreases from the spinal cord toward the periphery. (3) 'On the Medullated Nerve Fibers crossing the Site of Lesions in the Brain of the White Rat,' by S. Walter Ranson. Operations on very young rats heal with no appreciable scar and the site of the lesions is crossed by medullated fibers. These are presumably entirely new axones, for the power of regeneration seems to be lost in the adult. (4) 'On the Density of the Cutaneous Innervation in Man,' by Charles E. Ingbert. About 79 per cent. of the medullated dorsal root fibers innervate the skin and 21 per cent. are afferent fibers from muscles and deep tissues. One cutaneous spinal nerve fiber innervates, taking the average of the entire body, 2.05 sq. mm. of the skin. (5) 'On a Law determining the Number of Medullated Nerve Fibers innervating the Thigh, Shank and Foot of the Frog—*Rana virescens*,' by Henry H. Donaldson. The nerve fibers entering the leg being considered as so many separate lines of connection with the several segments, are found to be distributed in accordance with the law that the efferent fibers are present in proportion to the weight of the muscle, and the afferent in proportion to the area of skin.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

THE CONVOCATION WEEK MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Society