

opinion is strengthened by that of Ehrlich, who, on the ground of the uniformity of the elliptical shape, concluded that it had been preformed in the individual. As to the cause of the anomaly, Ehrlich did not commit himself. In conclusion, I wish to state the following views about the case:

1. The variation recorded occurred in a healthy individual. His good general physical condition, the normal number of red and white cells, the normal quantity of hæmoglobin, and the absence of megaloblasts, megalocytes and normoblasts, preclude the idea of any known blood disease being connected with the phenomenon.

2. The anomaly was probably one of congenital or developmental origin. Ewing holds this view for reasons stated above. It is unfortunate that no family history could be obtained to throw light upon this point, except that a brother of the subject had normal corpuscles.

3. In the light of Weidenreich's work, it is possible that the elliptical shape was an artifact. Ehrlich and others, including Professor Bleile and myself, do not hold this view. It would be strange that such a remarkable variation would occur so uniformly over so long a period. (As was stated in the former article, my observations extended over a period of four months, and the corpuscles were discovered two months before a systematic study was begun.)

4. It is possible that this variation was antecedent to the onset of pernicious anemia or some other blood disease. That would make the deformity none the less remarkable, for there were absolutely no symptoms, at any time, of any incipient illness.

5. So far as the writer has been able to ascertain, this is the first case of the kind recorded. However, Ewald, of Strassburg, writes that he thinks a similar observation was made at Königsberg twenty or thirty years ago. I have not been able to find any written record of such an observation.

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QUOTATIONS.

COMPULSORY GREEK AT CAMBRIDGE.

THE University of Cambridge has declined, by a considerable majority, to make Greek an optional, instead of, as at present, a compulsory, subject in the previous examination. The decision was not unexpected; and probably now the whole question will enter on a new phase. Though sympathizing with the aims of the proposers of the grades, we have already expressed the opinion that it was perhaps a mistake to raise so great a question as the place of Greek in higher education upon the comparatively minor issue of the regulations for a pass examination, in which all that has to be considered is a *minimum* of attainment. This, as Professor Butcher has pointed out, is not the way to estimate the value to the community of any branch of academic learning, be it Greek, mathematics or science. But in the present examination-ridden condition of higher education in England our educational authorities seem unable to think of learning or study except in terms of examination, with the result that, in Professor Butcher's words, when it is desired to modify the existing relation of Greek to university studies, 'a single examination is tinkered, without any regard to its bearings on the university course as a whole.' There has been very little attempt to lay down definite lines of study, and then consider the preliminary examination at entrance in its relation to different curricula. Because the exaction of a *minimum* attainment in Greek is now found to press hardly upon certain students without any corresponding advantage of literary culture, it was proposed at Cambridge to give an unrestricted option to all candidates, with no distinction between students of literature and of science, of different lines of study and of different curricula. The more limited proposal rejected a short time ago by the University of Oxford at least recognized the principle of adjusting the entrance examination to certain lines of academic study; but it was too limited and partial in its scope, and its adoption would have gone but a very little way towards a solution of the problem. What is wanted now in the interests of higher

education generally is not a mere tinkering with responsions or the previous examination, but to lay down by what avenues of study a university degree may be approached and how the various examinations may be adjusted to them. 'Compulsory Greek' is but an incident of this larger question.—The London *Times*.

STUDENTS OF THE GERMAN UNIVERSITIES.

A CONSULAR report states that this winter semester there are in Germany 39,716 matriculated students, against 39,581 during the past summer semester, and 39,718 last winter. At the beginning of the nineties there were in round numbers 29,000 students, and in the winter of 1894-95, 28,105; the third ten thousand was not reached until the winter 1897-98, when the number was 31,110, since which time there has been a steady increase until now, when the fourth ten thousand has been nearly reached. The numbers of those in attendance at the several universities during the winter semester 1894-95, the present winter semester, and the two previous semesters, were as follows:

University.	Winter 1894-95.	Winter 1903-4.	Summer 1904.	Winter 1904-5.
Berlin	5,031	7,503	6,096	7,774
Munich.....	3,475	4,906	4,946	4,766
Leipzig.....	2,985	3,772	3,575	3,880
Bonn.....	1,518	2,294	2,818	2,568
Halle.....	1,539	1,753	1,780	1,881
Breslau.....	7,293	1,770	1,800	1,870
Göttingen.....	804	1,370	1,581	1,574
Freiberg.....	1,136	1,331	2,029	1,501
Tübingen ..	1,165	1,387	1,581	1,407
Strassburg.....	949	1,333	1,299	1,395
Heidelberg.....	1,028	1,359	1,655	1,371
Würzburg.....	1,347	1,283	1,322	1,295
Marburg.....	800	1,154	1,421	1,276
Münster.....	411	1,204	1,255	1,256
Giessen.....	528	1,071	1,093	1,069
Jena.....	635	816	1,024	953
Erlangen.....	1,131	982	373	942
Königsberg.....	709	925	1,018	932
Kiel.....	504	758	1,000	745
Greifswald.....	750	687	775	705
Rostock.....	420	519	540	556

The number of students pursuing different subjects was:

	Number of Students.	
	1894-95.	1904-05.
Law	7,380	11,777
Philology and history	3,083	8,322
Medicine.....	7,768	5,906
Mathematics and science.....	2,525	5,688
Evangelical theology.....	3,083	2,136
Catholic theology.. ..	1,404	1,678
Pharmacy.....	1,214	1,387
Agriculture.....	883	1,055
Forestry.....	413	1,024
Dentistry.....	282	596
Veterinary surgery.....	70	149
Total.....	28,105	39,718

THE GEOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF SAO PAULO.

THE state of Sao Paulo, Brazil, has since 1886 maintained a Geographical and Geological Survey, the only organization of its kind on the South American continent, which up to the present time has made a detailed topographical map of nearly a third of its territory and made geological contributions that have attracted world-wide attention. Later the government of the same state established an engineering school with the title of *Escola Polytechnica de Sao Paulo* that aspires to be, and in many respects is, one of the first of its kind on the continent. A correspondent informs us that about four years ago a group of professors of the newly organized school initiated a campaign to undermine the older organization. The organizer and chief of the survey, Dr. Orville A. Derby, has been forced to resign, being accompanied by the chief topographer, Dr. Horace E. Williams, and by the largest and best part of the topographical staff. A railroad engineer has been appointed to succeed Dr. Derby and the government of the state, while announcing its intention of greatly improving the service, is now wrestling with the problem of mapping its territory without trained topographers.

THE PROGRAM OF STUDIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE.

THE trustees of Columbia University have this month adopted a new program of studies for the college on the recommendation of the faculty.