

SCIENCE

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UNIVERSITY CONTROL¹

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BOLOGNA and Paris are the archetypal universities from which all others have descended and from which they have in some measure inherited their present organization and methods. In the first decades of the twelfth century Irnerius lectured at Bologna on the civil law, and Abelard at Paris on philosophy and theology. There were at the same time other eminent teachers in those cities, and students were attracted from all parts of Europe. The students in a foreign city organized themselves into guilds for mutual protection and assistance in accordance with the custom of the time. These were the first universities. The lecturers, who had previously taught as the sophists at Athens and the rhetoricians at Rome, or as masters of music, dancing and gymnastics teach to-day, also organized themselves into societies or universities. There were no endowments; no academic buildings. The professors lectured at their homes or in

¹This paper, more especially the collection of letters from university professors, was prepared for the faculties of the University of Illinois, and for discussion before their committee charged with drawing up a constitution for the university. Papers on the subject have also been presented before the Society of Sigma Xi of the University of Indiana, the Huxley Club of the Johns Hopkins University and at a joint meeting of the faculties of Lehigh University and Lafayette College. The fact that in the last two cases the presentation was in the form of an after-dinner address may account for the more frivolous and rhetorical passages, and for the use of the first personal pronoun. These might have been eliminated—they have been reduced—but a reformer should be concerned with accomplishing his ends rather than with conserving his dignity.