

SCIENCE

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DOCTORATES CONFERRED BY AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

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IN the first five of the fifteen years during which records of the doctorates of philosophy conferred by our universities have been annually printed in SCIENCE, there was no increase in the number, the average being 233. In the course of the past ten years the number has about doubled, amounting this year to 492. The twenty-one German universities gave two years ago 1,703 doctorates of philosophy (of which 32 were to Americans), so we still fall far behind that country in the number of men adequately prepared for advanced teaching and research. As the population of the United States is half again as large as that of Germany, we must increase six-fold the number of doctorates conferred before we can reach the present level of that country.

The seven universities given at the beginning of the table conferred three fifths of all the degrees, but the other universities have gained somewhat, as for the first ten years covered by these statistics they conferred only one quarter of the degrees. The universities which have hitherto done less research work, and especially the state universities, are gaining somewhat on the older universities, with the exception of Columbia. This university has made a remarkable advance in the past two years, conferring this year 81 and last year 75 doctorates, thus drawing ahead of Chicago in the total number of degrees conferred in the past fifteen years. Yale and the Johns Hopkins remain about stationary in the number of degrees they confer, while Cornell, Pennsylvania and Harvard have