

own subject although he can consult the professor before beginning work. The selection of a subject is an important matter. The candidate for a doctor's degree must make a contribution to knowledge. If he cannot do this he can never take his examinations. If he select his subject carelessly and simply thresh over old straw through ignorance of the fact that the topic has already been treated, it will avail him nothing and his dissertation will be rejected. He must be certain that his subject has never been treated in any language or that he can cast new light upon it. Until that point is settled it is not safe to go ahead. The subject once selected he gives a year or a year and a half to the treatment of it. When completed and in shape for publication, the dissertation is presented to the philosophical faculty. With the presentation of the dissertation the student is for the first time officially recognized as a candidate for a degree. He is no longer a "Herr Student" but a "Herr Kandidat". The paper is submitted to a searching examination. It may be definitely rejected; it may be accepted with the proviso that before it is printed certain changes shall be made. The acceptance of the dissertation admits the "Kandidat" to the three oral examinations, each three quarters of an hour long, with fifteen minutes intermission. The student is allowed to select his examiners from the full professors, one for each subject. If he fail in his oral examinations, it means a long delay and perhaps the choice of other subjects. The Rubicon once passed it remains simply to print the dissertation, to present several hundred copies to the university for distribution and to receive in exchange the much coveted diploma.

So much for the students. Their position does not differ materially from that of graduate students in our large universities with the exception that the German students are thrown more upon their own resources; often, it seems to me, more than is desirable. There are no general meetings of the student body at prayers, nor can the stud-

ent, for the most part, consult a professor unless he seek him out in his home. If he does not take seminar work, his time in the university is devoted to hearing lectures or to reading. The seminars can provide for but a handful of students, a few hundred at the most. It follows that the major part of the university work is done through lectures.

Every complete German university has four faculties: Theology, Jurisprudence, Medicine, and Philosophy. Philosophy embraces, Philology, the Philosophical and Historical Sciences; Mathematics and the Natural Sciences. There are three grades of instructors, the lowest being the Privat-docent or instructor; the next higher "Professor Extraordinarius," or associate professor, and the highest "Professor Ordinarius," or full professor. There is much wire pulling in appointments and able men often find it difficult to rise. There is one practice that is rather startling to an American. It is that of allowing men to lecture when they no longer have hearers, and young instructors to win their spurs without any support in the way of salary. If the latter draws a crowd and shows that he is a scholar he will be made Professor Extraordinarius. If he does not draw he will be obliged to go into some other business to make his bread and butter. So soon as he shows himself to be a better man than some old professor, the latter's lecture room will be deserted. It often happens that while one man is delivering a free lecture to three students, right across the hall another may be lecturing to an audience of three hundred, each member of which pays one dollar a semester for the course. The professor draws his income from two sources, first from the government and second from the students; and with the popular men the last source is more productive than the first. Here the importance of being able to present a subject attractively was most noticeable. It was not always the most exact scholars that drew the largest audiences. Maurenbrecher was no more scholarly than Arndt, yet he attracted ten times as many hearers