

CONFIDENTIAL

School of Physical Education (Escuela de Educación Física)

In the latter part of the year 1927, the Department of Physical Education of the National University was combined with a similar department which had previously been under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education to form the School of Physical Education. The curriculum was completely reorganized and a four-year course designed especially to train teachers in physical education for the public schools was projected.

At the present time, the school does not have a building of its own. The classes are held in a few rooms loaned by a secondary school adjoining the National Stadium. The stadium is used for the practical courses in sports and athletic activities. The activities of the School at the present time are greatly curtailed by the lack of adequate funds and housing facilities. In the year 1928 (the first year which the School was part of the National University) the total enrollment was 44 students. Of this number 18 were men and 26 were women.

This School offers courses leading to a certificate of Teacher of Physical Education and Director of Physical Education.

The entrance requirements are that the student be free from contagious disease and physical disabilities, have satisfactory character references, and have completed the secondary school. Male students must be over 17 years of age; women students over 15.

Those who are to study for the certificate of Director of Physical Education must present a certificate of completion of studies for Teacher of Physical Education.

CoursesTeacher of Physical EducationHours per weekFirst Year

Biology, including laboratory	5
Physics, including laboratory	3
Pedagogy	3
English	2
Ethics	2

Second Year

Anatomy	5
Chemistry, including laboratory	3
Psychology	3
History and principles of physical education	3

Third Year

Physiology	5
Measurements and first aid	3
Psychology	3
Theory of games: organization of amusements, distribution and organization of the department of physical education	2
Personal, school, and public hygiene	3

Fourth Year

Physiology of exercise	3
Supervision of exercise	3
Medical examinations and therapeutic gymnastics	3
History of philosophy, elementary	3
Organization and administration of physical education in schools, stadiums, clubs and federations	3

Trimestral courses in the theory and practice of various sports -- volleyball, baseball, tennis, etc. -- are given during the four-year course above outlined.

Course Examinations

The candidate for Teacher of Physical Education must write a thesis and pass examinations in theory and practice.

For the written thesis, the candidate will submit his subject for approval by the Director; and when the thesis is completed

DETAIL OF EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
OF FUNDS RECEIVED FROM ALL SOURCES FOR SALARIES
AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES -- 1927
(in pesos)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Yearly Salary per Individual</u>	<u>Total Annual expenditures</u>
<u>Salaries and wages (Federal Government)</u>		
1 Inspector of Physical Education at 10.00 pesos per day.....	3,650.00	
1 Head of the classes in physical educa- tion in the National Preparatory School at 9.00 pesos per day.....	3,285.00	
1 Doctor at 6.00 pesos per day.....	2,190.00	
6 Teachers of physical education giving classes 2 hrs. per day at 6.00 per day...	2,190.00	
4 Teachers of physical education giving classes 1 hr. per day at 3.00 per day....	1,095.50	
4 Ass'ts in physical education giving classes 2 hrs. per day at 3.00 per day...	1,095.50	
2 Accompanyists at 2.50 pesos per day.....	912.50	
Total expenditures for all wages and salaries paid by the Federal Government.....		32,850.00
<u>Salaries and wages (fondos propios).....</u>		640.00
<u>General Expenses (Federal Government)</u>		
Office and minor expenses.....		225.00
<u>General Expenses (fondos propios)</u>		
Equipment for gymnasium, sports supplies, office expenses, etc.....		14,069.25

Statistics compiled from the Federal Budget for 1927 and
from figures supplied by the Auditing Department of the
National University

and presented, the Board of Examiners will decide whether or not it is to be accepted. The examination in theory and practice will be in any subject of the course, but preferably in anatomy, physiology, physics, physiological chemistry, pedagogy, and psychology, it being understood that laboratory demonstration may be required of the candidate. The examination in practice will be given in any form decided upon by the Board of Examiners.

The examinations in practice, and in theory, will be given together. The student whose written thesis has not been accepted but who passes these examinations is obliged only to submit a new thesis; vice versa, the student who fails these examinations but whose written thesis is accepted must take them again.

Candidates for the certificate of Director of Physical Education must write a thesis and pass a four-part professional examination: a written examination, examinations in theory, in special practice, and in individual practice. The candidate will choose the subject for his thesis to be presented for acceptance or rejection by the Board of Examiners. The examination in theory will be in subjects such as the physiology of exercise, therapeutic gymnastics, organization and administration of physical education, the Board assigning the candidate a particular theme on each of the above subjects. The special practice examination will consist in the direction by the candidate of a group of students in any of the following exercises: calisthenics, rhythm, apparatus, dance, or sports in general. The individual practice examinations will consist of exercises and will last as long as the Board deems necessary.

Miscellaneous regulations

Practical instruction of the students will be given in the National Stadium, in the athletic field of the School, or in any other places the School may choose.

Courses in rhythm and dance are designed especially for women students. Courses in baseball, apparatus, football, boxing, wrestling, and fronton are especially designed for men. Courses will be given in theory, and in practice, divided into trimestral periods.

International Relations of the National University and Summer School

The relations of the National University of Mexico to universities in other countries and to foreign educational organizations in general are under the jurisdiction of a special department known as the Department of University Exchange (Departamento de Intercambio Universitario). The chief activities of this Department may be listed as follows: (a) the maintaining of a permanent school in Mexico City dedicated to the teaching of geography and the history of Mexico to foreign residents; (b) the organization of a school during the months of December and January for Mexican teachers on vacation; (c) the maintaining and direction of a Summer School (Escuela de Verano) which "offers an opportunity to the citizens of other nations to study the language, history, and literature of Mexico, and to become acquainted with the social, political, and economic problems of the nation"; (d) the publication of a bulletin containing material of interest to Mexican and foreign teachers; (e) the direction of a library designed especially for foreigners and Mexicans who wish to make studies

of the scientific, literary, and artistic activities of the nation and of Latin America in general; and (f) the support and encouragement of Mexican teachers and students in foreign universities and of foreign teachers and students in Mexican universities.

The total budget for the Department of University Exchange, exclusive of the amount expended in favor of the Summer School, for the year 1927 was 20,440.00 pesos.

During the last four years, the National University has brought to Mexico for courses of lectures or for special investigations many distinguished foreigners. Among others might be mentioned Pierre Janet and Germain Martin from France; Fernando de los Rios and Casares Gil from Spain; John Dewey, Walter Williams, and Paul Monroe from the United States; and Peter Muehlens from Germany. At the same time, Mexico was represented in foreign countries by Ezequiel A. Chávez in France and Spain, and Julio Jimenez Rueda in the United States. Moreover, numerous students were sent on fellowships during this period to study in various foreign universities in Europe and the United States.

In 1927 there was held in Mexico under the auspices of the Department of University Exchange the first round table for the discussion of the local and international problems of the American nations. To this round table were invited a selected number of visiting foreign teachers and students and an equal number of Mexicans interested in social problems and international relations. The success of the first round table led to the establishing of a permanent organization known as the Inter-

TABLE XVI

DETAIL OF EXPENDITURES BY THE SUMMER SCHOOL
OF FUNDS RECEIVED FOR SALARIES
AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES FROM ALL SOURCES -- 1927
(in pesos)

Item	Yearly Salary per Individual ¹	Total annual Expenditures
<u>Salaries and wages (Federal Government)</u>		
1 Assistant to the Director in charge of social activities at 9.00 pesos per day.....	405.00	
9 Professors of Spanish at 9.00 pesos a day..	405.00	
12 Teachers of various subjects at 4.50 pesos per day.....	202.50	
20 Teachers of various subjects at 3.00 pesos per day.....	135.00	
4 Teachers of Mexican singing and dancing at 3.00 pesos per day.....	135.00	
2 Teachers of archaeology and Spanish art (2 hrs. per week) at 2.00 pesos per day.....	90.00	
2 Ass'ts in the classes in phonetics (5 hrs. per week) at 4.00 pesos per day.....	180.00	
2 Lecturers (2 hrs. per week) at 3.00 a day...	135.00	
1 Leader of excursions at 5.00 pesos per day.....	225.00	
1 Ass't to the foregoing at 3.00 pesos per day.	135.00	
Total wages and salaries paid by the Federal Government.....		10,890.00
<u>Salaries and wages (fondos propios).....</u>		--
<u>General Expenses (Federal Government).....</u>		--
<u>General Expenses (fondos propios)</u>		
Books and periodicals.....		177.68
Upkeep and running expenses.....		6,124.89
Building repairs and additions.....		2,181.34

Statistics compiled from the Federal Budget for 1927
and from figures supplied by the Auditing Department
of the National University

American Institute of the National University of Mexico. This Institute has for its purposes: (a) to establish a library and to collect documents and books which will be helpful in the study of inter-American problems; (b) to develop and foment the cultural relations between American nations; and (c) to organize an Institute each year for the discussion of inter-American problems. The Institute has held two round tables of the type described above in the years 1928 and 1929 respectively.

Summer School (Escuela de Verano)

Beginning in 1921, under the direction of the Department of University Exchange the National University of Mexico has offered in a Summer School each year for six weeks during the months of July and August special courses in Mexican history, language, art, literature, and social and economic problems. To this School have come in the last eight years not only many foreign students (the majority from the United States) but also as guest members of its faculty many distinguished foreign teachers. The enrollment has grown from a few dozen in 1921 to an average of 260 students per year during the last five years. Fifty-one courses were offered in 1927 by a teaching staff of 54 teachers. The total expenditures of the Summer School in the year 1927 were 19,373.91 pesos. Of this amount 10,890.00 pesos were expended for salaries and 8,483.91 pesos for building repairs, books, and general running expenses. (Table XVI) Although, as in most schools of this type, the quality and the amount of work done (especially, be it said, by the foreign students) is hardly of University grade, the Summer School, nevertheless, has been a distinct

success and has made a valuable contribution to the cause of international understanding and to the dissemination of knowledge concerning the Mexican people.

University Libraries

Departmental Libraries

In the analysis made above of each of the Colleges and Schools in the National University, attention was devoted in each case to a description of the departmental library where such existed. It remains to summarize the materials relating to the departmental libraries and to make a few general comments relevant to this subject. The various departmental libraries of the National University were placed in 1926 under a single administrative department known as the Inspección de Bibliotecas de la Universidad. The object of this department was to centralize and coordinate the work of the libraries with especial reference to the classification and cataloguing of books. In 1927 the First National Congress of Librarians was celebrated in Mexico City and one of the commissions appointed by the Congress was directed to work out a uniform system of classification for the University libraries. In due time, as the result of a report by this commission, the Dewey decimal system combined with the Bruxelles system was adopted. However, due to the lack of funds and trained personnel, the cataloguing of the books in the departmental libraries on the basis of the new system has proceeded very slowly.

As has been intimated in the discussion in connection with the individual libraries of the Colleges and Schools, the

number of books in any one of the departmental libraries or in all of them taken together is wholly inadequate for an institution seeking to give university courses. As Table XVII show, in 1927 the total number of volumes in all University libraries was 81,917. The number of new books purchased for all libraries combined in that year was 806 and the number of periodicals was 160. The total value of all acquisitions in the year 1927 was 6,802.99 pesos. The total expenditures for salaries and wages in 1927 was 53,290.00 pesos (Table XVIII). It might be added that this was in no respect an unusual year. The distribution of funds to the individual libraries varies somewhat from year to year, but the total amount budgeted for the acquisition of new books during the years since the revolution has averaged about the same.

National Library

The law of 1929 which reorganized the National University of Mexico and made it autonomous in one of its articles provides that the National Library shall cease to be under the direction of the Ministry of Education and shall become a dependency of the University. It is therefore appropriate at this point to review briefly the history and present situation of this institution.

The National Library of Mexico is housed in the old San Agustín church erected by the Augustinians (1677-92) on the site of a primitive church which was completed in 1541 and destroyed by fire in 1676. With its tile-covered dome in the Mudéjar style and its facade a maze of columns, friezes, and carvings, the church of San Agustín is from an architectural

TABLE XVII

NUMBER AND VALUE OF BOOKS AND PERIODICALS PURCHASED BY
VARIOUS DEPARTMENTAL LIBRARIES OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
IN 1927 AND APPROXIMATE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUMES IN EACH LIBRARY

	<u>Books</u> <u>Pur-</u> <u>chased</u>	<u>Value</u> <u>(in pesos)</u>	<u>Period-</u> <u>icals</u> <u>Pur-</u> <u>chased</u>	<u>Value</u> <u>(in pesos)</u>	<u>Total Value</u> <u>of</u> <u>Acquisition</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Volumes</u>
College of Medicine	117	592.40	18	215.85	808.25	10,017
School of Fine Arts	15	489.20	8	118.35	607.55	4,515
College of Dentistry			6	49.00	49.00	2,015
Conservatory of Music	1	90.00	6	49.00	139.00	12,501
Summer School	8	66.50	10	111.18	177.68	1,004
College of Chemistry	4	107.20	23	375.82	483.02	2,504
College of Law	258	1,124.71	8	141.23	1,266.04	15,258
University Library	152	853.81	49	509.60	1,363.41	11,152
Preparatory School	112	533.30	10	106.34	639.64	13,312
College of Engineering	<u>139</u>	<u>884.98</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>384.42</u>	<u>1,269.40</u>	<u>9,639</u>
Totals	806	4,742.10	160	2,060.89	6,802.99	81,917

Statistics furnished by the Inspección de Bibliotecas,
Universidad Nacional

TABLE XVIII

DETAIL OF EXPENDITURES BY UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
OF FUNDS RECEIVED FROM ALL SOURCES FOR SALARIES
AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES -- 1927
(in pesos)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Yearly Salary per Individual</u>	<u>Total Annual expenditures</u>
<u>Salaries and wages (Federal Government)</u>		
1 Inspector of libraries at 10.00 pesos a day...	3,650.00	
3 Librarians in charge of libraries at 8.00 pesos per day.....	2,920.00	
1 Cataloguer at 6.00 pesos per day.....	2,190.00	
6 Librarians in charge of libraries at 6.00 pesos per day.....	2,190.00	
1 Librarian in charge of the library of the Conservatory of Music at 5.00 pesos a day.....	1,825.00	
2 Ass't librarians at 4.50 pesos per day.....	1,682.50	
14 Desk clerks at 4.00 pesos per day.....	1,460.00	
Total expenditures for all wages and salaries paid by the Federal Government.....		53,290.00
<u>Salaries and wages (fondos propios).....</u>		--
<u>General Expenses (Federal Government)</u>		
Office and minor expenses.....		225.00
<u>General Expenses (fondos propios)</u>		
Purchase of books and magazines.....		2,060.89

Statistics compiled from the Budget for 1927 and from
figures supplied by the Auditing Department of the
National University

point of view one of the most interesting buildings in Mexico City. At one time it was also one of the finest and wealthiest of Catholic churches and was possessed of vast landed estates, many beautiful pictures, and a carved walnut-wood choir, the estimated cost of which was 240,000 pesos. The church became government property with the passage of the reform laws (1859) during the administration of Juárez.

The central nave of the old church has been made into the main reading room of the library. The books are shelved in stacks reaching from the floor to the ceiling in the lateral chapels and aisles. It is hard to imagine a more uncomfortable or unsatisfactory place in which to try to work. The building is always cold and damp; the light which filters through the high (dirty) windows is inadequate; the labyrinth of chapels and alcoves is confusing; the wooden floor acts as a huge sounding board that accentuates the slightest noise; and over and in and under all has settled the dust of the ages.

No man knows how many books there are in the National Library. It has been estimated that of catalogued books there are approximately 144,000 volumes. Concerning the number of uncatalogued books, various guesses have been made varying from 100,000 to 250,000 volumes. The difficulty of estimating the number of uncatalogued books arises from the fact that most of these books (the majority of them old manuscript volumes of theological dissertations, conventual records, etc. taken from religious organizations) still remain in packing boxes or are simply piled together on the floor.

Two systems of cataloguing are used in the library. The so-called "old system" under which approximately 135,000 books

are recorded consists simply of a list of the books by authors. For obvious reasons, the method of cataloguing books by simply listing them by authors is defective and inefficient. Moreover, many of the cards have been lost or damaged so that ordinarily it is much safer when one wishes to find a given book to rely upon the memories of the older employees of the Library than upon the card catalogues. The new system of cataloguing, called the cedulario, was introduced only a few years ago. (It is an interesting commentary that no one in the library seems to know exactly when the system was introduced.) By this method, which is similar to the familiar dictionary classification, some 10,000 volumes including all the new acquisitions of the library in recent years have been catalogued. Under the new procedure the books are numbered by alcoves, divisions, and shelves, but there is, unfortunately, no cumulative numbering of the separate volumes. This means that in order to find any given book one must know the alcove in which it is likely to be located. It also means that it is impossible to tell exactly the number of books in the library at any given time.

Since the year 1909, no funds have been given to the National Library for the purchase of books. It is true that from time to time certain grants have been made by the government, such as, for example, the grant of 30,000 pesos during the administration of Carranza. For some reason or other, however, the library has never actually received any money. On occasion, a book will be bought at the special request of some governmental official, but the money for this purpose must be taken out of the funds assigned for the general running expenses of the library. In 1927, 1 new book was purchased by the Library!

DETAIL OF EXPENDITURES BY NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF FUNDS RECEIVED FOR SALARIES
FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT --1927
(in pesos)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Yearly Salary per Individual</u>	<u>Total annual expenditures</u>
1 Director of the National Library at 20.00 pesos per day.....	7,300.00	
1 Sub-Director at 11.00 pesos per day.....	4,015.00	
1 Chief Clerk at 9.00 pesos per day.....	3,285.00	
5 Clerks at 7.00 pesos per day.....	2,555.00	
4 Clerks at 6.00 pesos per day.....	2,190.00	
2 Clerks at 5.00 pesos per day.....	1,825.00	
6 Clerks at 4.00 pesos per day.....	1,460.00	
1 Stenographer at 6.00 pesos per day.....	2,190.00	
2 Stenographers at 4.50 pesos per day.....	1,682.50	
1 Workman at 5.00 pesos per day.....	1,825.00	
1 Bookbinder at 3.00 pesos per day.....	1,095.50	
1 Chief Janitor at 4.50 pesos per day.....	1,682.50	
6 Guards at 4.50 pesos per day.....	1,682.50	
1 Janitor at 3.50 pesos per day.....	1,277.50	
6 Janitors at 3.50 pesos per day.....	1,277.50	
1 Watchman at 3.50 pesos per day.....	1,277.50	
1 Gardener at 3.00 pesos per day.....	1,095.50	
Total salaries and wages.....		79,935.00

Aside from the purchase of books, however, the library has other means of obtaining new acquisitions. These are: . (a) gifts or donations; (b) books received under an old decree passed during the administration of Comonfort which requires one copy of every book published in Mexico City to be deposited in the library (this law, however, is not very strictly enforced); and (c) books received by virtue of the copyright law which requires the deposit of a copy of every book for which application is made for a copyright in Mexico. Under these various headings, the library receives on the average of 2,000 new volumes each year.

The general rule of the library is that under no circumstances is anyone allowed to take a book out of the library building. By special provision, however, governmental authorities and in some cases other "persons of importance" are permitted to withdraw books under bond.

The daily attendance at the National Library varies between 500 and 800 individuals, with an average of about 650. Often, due to the fact that there are only 24 tables and less than 200 chairs available, many of the patrons must perforce stand up to read.

By way of summarizing the present situation of the National Library, the following paragraphs are quoted from an article recently published by a well known Mexican writer.

"The building in which the National Library is located is not only inadequate for the purposes, but it is in the worst possible condition. The walls and ceilings are so badly cracked as to constitute a serious menace for readers attending the library... There are many books in the library, it is true; but most of them relate to theology and scholastic philosophy and are therefore in this day and time very rarely consulted, and even those books which relate to other subjects are so old and out of

date as to be almost useless... The system of card catalogues is not complete. The cataloguing department and the department of bookbinding are so badly equipped that even the memory of them causes one pain. The personnel of the library is totally inadequate and the salaries very low in relation to the amount of work which is demanded." 19 (For salaries paid in 1927, see TableXIX)

University Extension

The Department of University Extension was established in 1925 in order to devise a program for putting into effect a principle stated by President Calles in these words: "I firmly believe that the union of the intellectual and laboring classes is one of the best means to insure the wellbeing of the nation."

The most important activities of this Department consist of the organization of lectures and concerts, the establishing of University Extension centers, and cooperation with various private and public organizations interested in civic welfare. The total amount expended in work of this sort in the year 1927 was 10,580.67 pesos, of which 8,831.00 went for salaries and 1,749.67 pesos for all other purposes. During the year in question, official statistics list the following "acts" by the Department: lectures on history, civics, sociology, economics, hygiene, and literature, 406; concerts and festivals, 63; "social-service works and other cultural acts," 86.

Other University Departments

By the law of 1929 the following new departments were added to the University:

- Institute of Geology
- Institute of Biology
- Astronomical Observatory
- National School of Veterinary Medicine
- National School of Agriculture

The Institute of Geology was formerly under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Industry Commerce and Labor. The other organizations mentioned above were dependencies of the Ministry of Agriculture. Due to the fact that these new departments are in the process of being completely reorganized, and that their status in the University has not yet been determined, no detailed analysis of their activities is given in this report.

THE PROBLEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN MEXICO

Functions of the National University

As has been pointed out in previous studies of this series (see especially Educational Studies, Series 1, Numbers 7 and 8), the problem of education in Mexico is primarily a problem of: (a) raising the standard of living of a people who are for the most part living at a minimum level of subsistence; and (b) integrating a nation at present composed of disparate cultural, racial, and geographic factors and forces. In other words, looked at from the point of view of administrative procedure, the educational problem in Mexico is: on the one hand, the development of a public school system (especially primary schools in the rural areas) dedicated to wiping out illiteracy and raising the economic and cultural levels of the people; and, on the other hand, the training of leaders who can not only plan and put into effect this educational program but also leaders who can grapple with the many social, economic, and political difficulties and questions with which the Mexican nation is faced at the present time.

Obviously, it is to the solution of the second part of the problem of education as here stated that the chief contribution

must be made by the National University. In other words, stated somewhat more formally and in more detail, the functions of the National University of Mexico, in the opinion of the present writer, should be:

1. To furnish to the citizens of Mexico those types of professional training for which there is the largest demand and which can be given most appropriately and most economically at home.

2. To conduct research bearing upon the major physical, economic, social, and educational problems of the country.

3. To cultivate and maintain intimate cooperation with all governmental and private agencies concerned with the formulation of knowledge and its diffusion among the people.

4. To play an active role, through its representatives, in raising the intellectual, social, and moral standards of the community in which it is located and of other communities.

5. To serve as the principal focal point for the preservation, interpretation, and development of Mexican culture. 20

Is the National University of Mexico fulfilling its proper functions?

Probably the best answer to the question: "Is the National University of Mexico fulfilling its proper functions?" is to be found in the conclusions appended to a report summarizing the progress of the University during the four years of President Calles' administration. These conclusions read in part as follows:

"The work [of the National University] is far from perfect, or complete, but impartial observation of the accomplishments [during the last four years] indicates that the National University

of Mexico has not been stationary but has made every effort within its power to fulfill its high social mission in the national educational organization.

"Certain factors have favored this development: the interest the President of the Republic has taken in the University; the sincere and pronounced assistance given by the Ministry of Public Education; the intelligent and cordial cooperation of the Directors of the Schools and Colleges with the Rector; the growing interest of the teachers and students (more marked in some departments than others) who ^{onah} through still at times undisciplined have displayed better feeling toward the University which they claim and defend as their own; the general sympathy which the University's work has awakened in various classes of Mexican society and in foreign groups.

"But there have also been unfavorable factors. There are still many educated people -- especially half-educated people -- who continue attacking the University as they have attacked it since 1910, considering it something exotic, something superfluous within our educational and social organization. There have been those, too, who believe that the University has not been contributing as it should contribute to the solution of the problems of Mexico and that it must be completely reorganized. Finally, even within the University itself, there are teachers who, ignoring the diverse details of the University's work, criticize it, without suggesting effective remedies and without collaborating loyally and sincerely in the work of improvement.

"The University has tried to answer all these objections and attacks with the results which it has achieved, modest though they are and, albeit, accomplished with greatest difficulty. Of course, the University does not deny the deficiencies that still exist nor the necessity that remains for making an effort to correct them; but it should not be forgotten that the University was born on the eve of the revolutionary movement, that it has lived during the difficulty, abnormal period brought about by the revolution; and that it has had to defend itself constantly from its own people and outsiders, without stopping its efforts to serve the country.

"It is indispensable that those authorities, teachers, and students who make up the University understand the role this class of institution plays in modern democracies and above all what the National University can and should contribute toward the progress of Mexico... It is urgent that the institution be able to count on necessary funds for its work; not only on those which the Federal Government allows it in the Budget; but also on those contributions which it may look forward to receiving from its graduates, philanthropists, public spirited citizens, and all those who believe that the University must become one of the decisive factors in the material, moral, economic, and social development of the Republic. It is necessary that the University have a College of Sciences which will not only elaborate pure science and give Mexico an opportunity to contribute however modestly to the enrichment of the scientific knowledge of the world, but which will also enlighten us more and more with respect to our own country and permit us to take advantage, more intelligently and more effectively, of our riches. While this

College is being established, we must have the laboratories and libraries indispensable for the work of the various University departments; and, if possible, we must begin to aid those individuals outside of the University who could carry on investigations if they had the proper technical and pecuniary recourses to permit them to dedicate part of their life to disinterested work. Finally, it is, and will continue to be absolutely indispensable to take advantage of all opportunities for the material and spiritual invigoration of the University, for giving it greater cohesion and inner force, greater prestige and respect, and for making it possible for the University to exercise the social function that is incumbent upon it." ²¹

From the foregoing statement we may select several points for further comment.

The "Grade" of Work Done in the National University

From the material presented in the analyses of the Colleges and Schools which make up the National University, it should be apparent that the work presented in a number of the departments is not of University grade, at least as the term "university" is generally understood in the United States. This statement is not based upon any attempt to pass judgment upon the materials or methods which characterize the courses offered in the University but rather upon the simple test of entrance requirements and the time required to obtain a degree in any given case. From Table XX and Chart III, it appears that only 6 departments ^{offer courses} in the University leading to degrees which require four-year study

and which require for entrance at least six-years primary and four years preparatory training. If the courses offered by these departments are ranked as being of "university grade," it will be noted that in the year 1927 only 2,218 students or 24.7 percent of the total student body of 8,940 were doing university work as this term has here been defined.

The Faculty

In the year 1927 the total teaching staff of the National University was 897. Of this number, 696 were listed as "teachers" and 201 as "Assistants." (Table XXI) So far as the writer has been able to discover, in the year 1927 the full-time teachers on the staff of the National University hardly numbered over a dozen. Almost without exception, the classes in the National University are taught by men either engaged in the practice of their profession or in business; men who give one or two classes in their spare time as a means of adding to their income. The members of the University faculty do not maintain offices in the University buildings and are not available for consultation with the students outside of the classroom. Except in rare cases, it is unknown for a University professor to be engaged in research in connection with the subject which he teaches. In a word, teaching in the University is not regarded as a profession to which a man devotes his best efforts and all of his time.

One of the chief reasons for the present situation with regard to teaching in the National University is the lack of security in academic tenure and the lack of stability in the curriculum and program brought about by the constant introduction of politics into the affairs of the University. It may be that

TABLE XX

STUDENTS IN THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY TAKING COURSES
OF "UNIVERSITY GRADE" AS COMPARED WITH STUDENTS
TAKING ALL OTHER COURSES -- 1927 ¹

Courses of University Grade	Entrance Requirements			Duration University Course	Total En- rollment
	Prim- ary	Second ary	Prepara- tory		
<u>College of Medicine</u>					
General Medicine	6	3	2	6	1,254
<u>College of Dentistry</u>	6	3	1	4	209
<u>College of Engineering</u>					
Civil Engineering	6	3	2	5	152
Mining Engineering	6	3	2	5	16
Electrical Engineering	6	3	2	4	17
Oil Engineering	6	3	2	5	5
<u>College of Chemistry and Pharmacy</u>					
Chemical Engineering	6	3	1	5	67
<u>School of Fine Arts</u>					
Architecture	6	3	2	5	50
<u>College of Law and Social Sciences</u>					
Master in Law	6	3	2	5	448
					2,218
<hr/>					
<u>All other Courses</u>					
<u>College of Medicine</u>					
Nursing	6	-	1	2	153
Midwifery	6	-	1	4	139
<u>College of Engineering</u>					
Topographic Engineering	6	3	2	2	14
<u>College of Chemistry and P.</u>					
Chemist	6	3	1	3	7
Pharmaceutical Chemistry	6	3	1	3	60
Oil Chemistry	6	3	1	3	8
Pharmacy	6	3	1	2	10
Metallurgy	6	3	1	2	9
Pharmacy Assistants	6	-	-	2	34
<u>School of Industrial Chem.</u>	-	-	-	1	211
<u>National School of Fine Arts</u>					
Painter	6	-	-	5	1,161
Sculptor	6	-	-	5	77
Engraving	6	-	-	5	18
Mechanical Drawing-Workmen	-	-	-	3	97
<u>National School of Music</u>					
Singing	6	-	-	7	194
Harp	6	-	-	8	13
Violin and Viola	6	-	-	6-9	121
Violon-cello	6	-	-	8	18
Double bass	6	-	-	7	5

TABLE XX (Cont.)

	<u>Entrance Requirements</u>			<u>Duration</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Prim- ary</u>	<u>Second- ary</u>	<u>Prepara- tory</u>	<u>University Course</u>	<u>En- rollment</u>
Flute	6	-	-	7	6
Simple Orchestral Instruments	6	-	-	7	25
Advanced Orchestral Instru.	6	-	-	6	4
Horns	6	-	-	5	16
Piano	6	-	-	9	282
Organ	6	-	-	6	10
Composition	6	-	-	9	151
Elocution	6	-	-	3	239
<u>College of Philosophy and Letters and Teachers College</u>					
Master	6	3	2-3	2	801
Prof. Secondary Schools	6	3	2-3	2	-
Director Primary Schools	6	3	2-3	3	-
School Inspector	6	3	2-3	2	-
National Preparatory School	6	3	-	1-2	1,479
<u>School of Public Administration</u>					
Public Accountant	6	-	-	5	619
Office Work	6	-	-	2	-
All other courses	6	-	-	3	-
Summer School and Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	381
<u>School of Physical Education</u>					
"Galación Gómez" School		Not part of University in 1927			
<u>School of Sculpture</u>	-	-	-	3	360
					6,722

¹ A course of "University Grade" is defined as one of at least four years' duration with entrance requirements of at least six years' primary and four years' secondary training.

Statistics from Noticia Estadística sobre la Educación Pública de México 1928, p.948 and 944 ff.

TABLE XXI

TEACHING AND OTHER PERSONNEL EMPLOYED
BY THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY -- 1927

Name of School or College	Teaching		Adminis- tration	Jani- tors	Work- men
	Teachers	Asis- tants			
Preparatory School	103	15	8	32	1
College of Medicine	136	113	4	41	-
College of Dentistry	39	16	1	12	-
College of Chemistry and Pharmacy	37	20	2	37	21
College of Engineering	72	12	2	15	3
College of Law and Social Sciences	60	-	1	10	-
College of Philosophy and Letters and Teachers College	32	-	1	6	-
Summer School	48	6	-	-	-
School of Public Administration	29	-	2	1	-
School of Fine Arts	62	3	3	23	4
School of Sculpture	1	-	-	2	4
Conservatory of Music	65	10	7	10	2
School of Physical Education	12	6	-	-	-
Totals	696	201	31	189	35

Statistics furnished by Department of Statistics, Ministry
of Education, Noticia Estadística sobre la Educación Pública
de México, p.968.

CHART III.

GRAPHIC PRESENTATION OF STUDENTS IN THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
TAKING COURSES OF "UNIVERSITY GRADE" AS COMPARED WITH STUDENTS
TAKING ALL OTHER COURSES - 1927.



A COURSE OF "UNIVERSITY GRADE" IS DEFINED AS ONE OF AT LEAST 4 YEARS
DURATION WITH ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS OF AT LEAST 6 YEARS PRIMARY
AND 4 YEARS SECONDARY TRAINING.