the law of 1929 will correct this evil, but up to the present time University professors have been appointed to and kept in their positions as much for their personal and political influence as for any qualifications which they might have.

The Question of Finances

It has been pointed out above (see p.38) in the section dealing with the financial support of the University that the National University of Mexico receives its funds from two sources: the Federal Government; and from income derived from student fees, the sale of student work, and from the rents of certain small real estate holdings. The funds supplied the University by the Federal Government are those granted each year as a regular part of the National Budget and are to be distinguished from the fondos proprios or funds which the University derives from student tuition fees, etc.

In the year 1927, as has been noted, the total receipts by the National University from the Federal Government were 2,319,353.50 pesos and those from the <u>fondos proprios</u> were 197,961.79 pesos.

In Table XXII appear the totals by departments of the expenditures of the National University of funds received from all sources in the year 1927. Here it will be noted that the total expenditures of the University for the year in question were 2,494,908.95 pesos, of which 2,292,684.89 pesos were funds granted by the Federal Government, and 202,224.06 pesos were funds derived from various other sources, i.e. the fondos proprios. (That the University was able to spend several thousand more pesos of the

TABLE XXII

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENTS OF NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND FROM VARIOUS OTHER SOURCES -- 1927

Department	Funds received from Federal Government	Funds received from various other sources	Total Expenditures
General Expenses of the University University Exchange University Extension University Libraries Dep't of Physical Education	7,385.00 53,515.00	51,491.28 4,659.78 3,195.67 6,802.99 14,709.25	382,248.78 25,324.78 10,580.67 60,317.99 47,784.25
University Publications National Preparatory	•	13,149.50	13,149.50
School	467,052.50	4,839.79 13,853.31 11,649.74	325,795.79 480,905.81 123,959.74
College of Engineer -	163,592.50	10,572.87	174,165.37
C. of Chemistry and Pharmacy	201,632.50	13,497.69	215,130.19
C. of Law andSocial SciencesC. of Philosophy	107,137.50	1,894.45	109,031.95
and Letters; and Teachers College School of Fine Arts S. of Public		940.21 11,132.06	68,807.71 189,693.45
Administration S. of Sculpture Summer School	16,607.50	6,873.57 6,854.44 8,483.91	45,203.57 23,461.94 19,373.91
Conservatory of Music		15,065.42	140,365.63 24,007.92
National Academy of Medicine	6, 0 00. 0 0		6,000.00
"Antonio Alzate" Society	1,200.00		1,200.00 6,000.00
Music	2,400.00		2,400.00
Totals	2,292,684.89	2 02,224.0 6	2,494,908.95

Statistics furnished by Department of Statistics, Ministry of Education, Noticia Estadística sobre la Educación Pública de México, p.974.

fondos proprios than it received under this heading in the year 1927 is explained by the fact that there were certain funds held over from the previous year.)

In Tables XXIII and XXIV, are given by departments and items the distribution of expenditures by the National University in the year 1927 of funds received from the Federal Government and from all other sources, In consulting these tables, two words of explanation should be kept in mind. First, the subsidy granted by the Federal Government in the year 1927 was somewhat less than that granted in previous years. For this reason, the amounts allocated in the Federal Budget for expenses other than salaries and wages in various departments are very small. In the second place, in the case of the distribution of the fondos proprios as between departments, it should be said that such distribution is very erratic, varies greatly from year to year, and the amount which any given department receives in any given year is likely to be in direct ratio to the strength of the personal influence and "drag" of the director of the School or College in question.

Perhaps the most interesting single fact which appears in an alaysis of the statistics just presented is the very great disproportion between the amount expended for salaries and wages and the amount expended for all other purposes. As may be noted in Table XXV and Charts IV and V, the University in 1927 spent for salaries and wages a total of 2,274.032.11 as compared with 220,876.84 pesos for all other purposes. In other words, 91.2% of all money paid out by the University went for salaries and wages while only 8.8% was expended for building repairs, office supplies, laboratory and classroom equipment and supplies, running

DETAIL BY DEPARTMENTS OF EXPENDITURES FOR ALL PURPOSES OF FUND RECEIVED BY THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT -- 1927

(in pesos) Amount by Items Totals Departments and Items General Expenses of University 2,075.00 2,372.50 - Office and Minor Expenses Publication University Bulletin, books, etc. 326,310.00 330.757.50 Salaries and Wages University Exchange 225.00 Office and Minor Expenses 20,665.00 20,440.00 Salaries and Wages University Extension 450.00 - Office and Minor Expenses 6,935.00 7,385.00 Salaries and Wages University Libraries - Office and Minor Expenses 225.00 Salaries and Wages 53,290.00 53,515.00 Department of Physical Education 225.00 Office and Minor Expenses 32.850.00 Salaries and Wages 33,075.00 University Publications National Preparatory School Office and Minor Expenses 1,500.00 Chemical.laboratory.equipment & supplies 300.00 320,956.00 319,156.00 Wages and Salaries College of Medicine 2,250.00 Office and Minor Expenses Chemical supplies, laboratory supplies and equipment, cadavers, etc. 1.800.00 Wages and Salaries 463,002.50 467,052.50 College of Dentistry Office and Minor Expenses 750.00 Chemical, laboratory supplies and 600.00 equipment 110.960.00 112,310.00 Salaries and wages College of Engineering Office and Minor Expenses 750.00 Chemical. laboratory supplies and 600.00 equipment 162,242.50 163,592.50 Salaries and wages College of Chemistry and Pharmacy 2,250.00 Office and Minor Expenses Chemical, laboratory supplies and 2,100.00 equipment 197,282.50 201,632.50 Salaries and wages College of Law and Social Sciences -Office and Minor Expenses 375.00 106.762.50 107,137.50 Salaries and wages

Table XXIII(Cont.)

Detail by Departments of Expenditures for all purposes of Funds Received by the National University from the Federal Government -- 1927

	Amount	
Department and Items	by Items	<u> Totals</u>
College of Philosophy and Letters and Teachers College Office and Minor Expenses Laboratory Equipment and supplies Salaries and Wages School of Fine Arts Office and Minor Expenses	375.00 150.00 67,342.50 563.39	67,867.50
Laboratory equipment and supplies Salaries and Wages School of Public Administration	1,858.00 176,140.00	178,561.39
Office and Minor Expenses Salaries and Wages School of Sculpture	187.50 38,142.50	38,330.00
-Salaries and Wages	16,607.50	16,607.50
Summer School Salaries and Wages Conservatory of Music	10,890.00	10,890.00
Office and Minor Expenses Salaries and Wages Stadium	750.00 137,057.50	137,807.50
- Salaries and Wages	8,942.50	8,942.50
National Academy of Medicine Subvention	6,000.00	6,000.00
Antonio Alzate Scientific Society Subvention	1,200.00	1,200.00
Conservatory Student Orchestra Subvention	6,000.00	6,000.00
Chamber Music Society Subvention	2,400.00	2,400.00
	-	2,292,684.89

Statistics taken from El Esfuerzo Educativo en México, 1924-28, V.I, pp.706-13; and from Noticia Estadística sobre la Educación Pública de México, 1928, p.974.

TABLE XXIV

DETAIL OF EXPENDITURES FOR ALL PURPOSES BY DEPARTMENTS OF FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY FROM VARIOUS SOURCES -- 1927 (in pesos)

	-	
	Amount	
Departments and Items	by Items	<u> Totals</u>
General Expenses of University	.	
Repair of Administration Building	2,513.00	
Office supplies, expenses University		
ceremonies, etc.	47,460.78	
Salaries and wages	1,517.50	51, 4 91 .28
University Exchange		6
- Interchange of professors and students	4,659.78	4,659.78
University Extension		4
General expenses	1,299.67	4.00
Salaries and wages	1,896.00	3,195.67
University Library		
Books and magazines	<u> 1,363.41</u>	1,363.41
Department of Physical Education	-	,
Equipment for gymnasium, sports	_	
supplies, office expenses, etc.	14,069.25	
Salaries and wages	640.00	14,709.25
University Publications		
- Office supplies, administrative		
expenses, etc.	2,800.00	·
Salaries and wages	10,349.50	13,149.50
National Preparatory School	-	
Books and periodicals	639.64	
Bldg. repairs and additions	3,421.00	
Office and classroom supplies, equip-		
ment etc.	779.15	4,839.79
College of Medicine		
- Books and periodicals	808.25	
Bldg. repairs and additions	963.00	
Office, classroom, laboratory equip-		
ment and supplies, etc.	11,540.06	
Salaries and wages	542.00	13,853.31
College of Dentistry		
Books and periodicals	49.00	
Materials and supplies for clinics	7,246.43	
Building repairs and additions	944.00	
Office and classroom supplies and	~ • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
equipment	3,410.31	11,649.74
College of Engineering		
Books and periodicals	1,269.40	
Bldg. repairs and additions	2,924.20	
Office, classroom, laboratory	· , , ,	
supplies, materials, etc.	6,234.27	
Salaries and wages	145.00	10,572.87
	= 77:55	, , , - • •

TABLE XXIV(Cont.)

	Amount	
Departments and Items	by Items	Totals
College of Chemistry and Pharmacy	407 66	
Books and periodicals	483.02	
Machines, equipment, and supplies	598.47	
Raw materials and fuel	8,303.82	
Bldg. repairs and additions	334.50	17 10F 60
Office and classroom supplies and equipment	<u>3,777.88</u>	13,497.69
College of Law and Social Science	7 966 64	
Books and periodicals	1,266.04	1 804 45
Bldg. repairs and additions	628.41	1,894.45
College of Philosophy and Letters and Teachers College	* ∶	
Bldg. repairs and additions	151.25	
Classroom and office supplies and equipment	788.96	940.21
School of Fine Arts	100.90	940.61
Books and periodicals	607.55	
Bldg. repairs and additions	1,002.20	
Classroom and office supplies and equipment	9,522.31	11,132.06
School of Public Administration		##,# J =100
Bldg. repairs and additions	1,609.75	
Classroom and office supplies and equipment	5,263.82	6,873.57
School of Sculpture		-,-()-)(
Bldg. repairs and additions	5,235.05	
Office and classroom supplies and equipment	1,619.39	6,854.44
Summer School		, , , , , , ,
Books and periodicals	177.68	
Upkeep and running expenses	6,124.89	
Bldg. repairs and additions	2,181.34	8,483.91
Conservatory of Music		
- Books and periodicals	139.00	
Office and classroom supplies and equipment	1,965.26	
Bldg. repairs and additions	<u>453.87</u>	2,558.13
Stadium	0 5 0	
- Upkeep and running expenses	8,076.81	
Salaries and wages	6,988.61	15,065.42
	→	

Note: The distribution of the amounts by items in the Departments listed above are only approximately correct, due to the fact that various sets of statistics furnished by the National University do not check with each other.

Statistics furnished by Auditing Department of the National University.

TABLE XXV

SUMMARY BY DEPARTMENTS OF AMOUNTS SPENT FOR SALARIES COMPARED WITH AMOUNTS SPENT FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES BY THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF FUNDS RECEIVED FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND FROM VARIOUS OTHER SOURCES - 1927

Department		Salaries	All other purposes
General Expenses of the Universi University Exchange University Extension University Libraries Department of Physical Education University Fublications National Preparatory School College of Medicine College of Dentistry College of Engineering College of Chemistry and Pharmac College of Law and Social Scienc College of Philosophy and Letter and Teachers College	y es	327,827.50 20,440.00 8,831.00 53,290.00 33,490.00 10,349.50 319,156.00 463,544.50 110,960.00 162,387.50 197,282.50 106,762.50 67,342.50	54,421.28 4,884.78 1,749.67 7,027.99 14,294.25 2,800.00 6,639.79 17,361.31 12,999.74 11,777.87 17,847.69 2,269.45 1,465.21
School of Fine Arts School of Public Administration School of Sculpture Summer School Conservatory of Music Stadium National Academy of Medicine "Antonio Alzate" Society Symphony Orchestra Society of Chamber Music		173,740.00 38,142.50 16,607.50 10,890.00 137,057.50 15,931.11	15,953.45 7,061.07 6,854.44 8,483.91 3,308.13 8,076.81 6,000.00 1,200.00 2,400.00
T	otals	2,274,032.11	220,876.84

Statistics furnished by Department of Statistics, Ministry of Education, Noticia Estadística sobre la Educación Pública de México, 1928, p.974.

CHART IX

GRAPHIC PRESENTATION OF EXPENDITURES BY THE NATIONAL VNIVERSITY FOR SALARIES AND WAGES AS COMPARED WITH EXPENDITURES FOR ALL DTHER PURPOSES_1927_

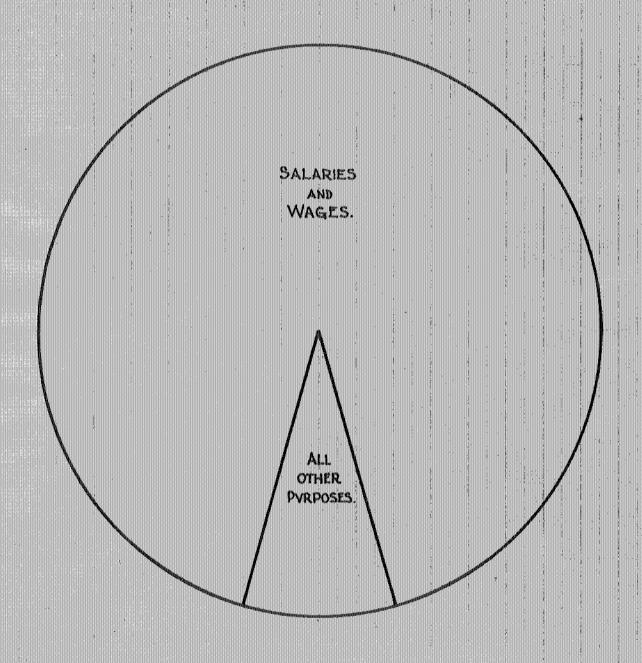
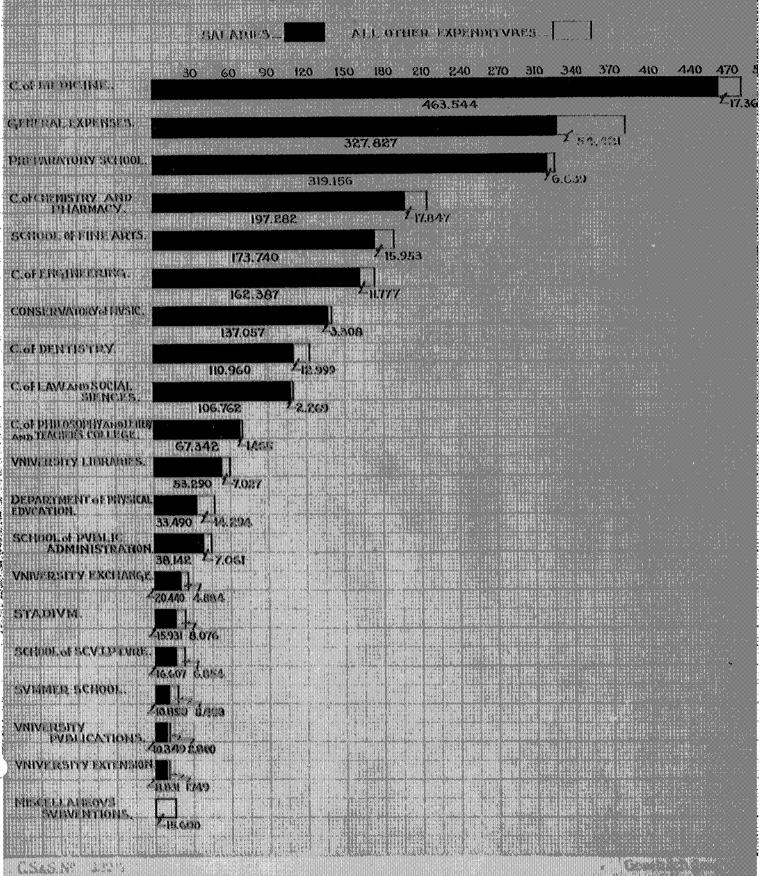


CHART V.

Expenditures by Departments of the National University of Evnds Received from all sources, showing salaries and wages compared with Money Spent for all other purposes, 1927. Cirloogs of dead



expenses, etc. etc.

And yet, despite the lack of balance and proportion between the amounts expended for salaries and wages and those expended for all other purposes, the constant complaint from all sides is that no man can afford to devote himself to teaching because of the low wages which are paid. And this is true. If the reader will refer to the figures presented in the tables given in connection with each one of the Colleges and Schools of the University, it will be seen that, in the case of the Law School for example, the highest average wage paid to teachers offering three clases a week was 1.460.00 pesos per year. In order to earn 5.480 pesos a year (approximately \$2.920.00 dollars) a professor in the Law School would have to teach a variety of different subjects something more than 20 hours a week. Although, to be sure, wage levels are somewhat lower in Mexico than they are, for example, in the United States, as has been pointed out in another place (See the author's Industrial Studies, Series I, Number 1) the cost of living for the average middle class family is only slightly less than it is in the United States. discrepancy between what a lawyer can earn from the practice of his profession and what he would receive for teaching even 20 hours per week in the Law School need not be pointed out here. enough to say that as long as the present salaries are paid in the College of Law and similarly in all other Colleges of the University it will be impossible to obtain first-class, full-time teachers as members of the University faculty.

When one stops to consider that the total amount expended for all purposes in the University other than for salaries and

wages was in 1927 only 220,876.84 pesos, and that this represents about the average of expenditures under this heading during the years since the revolution, one is not surprised to find that the University buildings are in bad state of repair, that the class-rooms are poorly equipped, and furnished, and that the laboratories are lacking in the most essential instruments and supplies.

Attention has already been devoted to this subject in connection with the discussion of the individual Schools and Colleges, and the figures cited in Tables XXIII and XXIV speak for themselves. However, in passing, it is perhaps worthwhile to quote one more paragraph bearing on the subject taken from a recent report made by the Rector of the University

"The College of Veterinary Medicine," said the Rector, "is incomplete in almost every respect -- the Anti-Rabies Institute, for example, consists of seven wire cages valued at seven pesos. The School of Physical Education has neither a building nor a gymnasium. The School of Commerce and Administration has no appropriate quarters. Sixty-eight thousand pesos will be necessary to complete the urgently needed repairs in the Preparatory School. The building of the College of Engineering is about to fall into ruins. That of the College of Dentistry is far too small and badly in need of repairs. In the College of Medicine the most indispensable instruments and apparatus are lacking; the chemistry laboratory does not have the most essential supplies and is located in a damp basement where such equipment as it possesses is gradually disintegrating. Concerning the National Library, the less said the better..." 22

With the funds at its disposal and the equipment which it has at the present time, the National University is utterly unable to meet the needs of its rapidly growing student body. Not only is it difficult to get the students into the classrooms and laboratories, but even where this is possible by crowding and jamming, obviously, the quality of work which it is possible to do under these conditions, even assuming the best of intentions,

is bound to be low. A realization of these facts, plus the knowledge that the University is facing a deficit of some 68,000 pesos for the current year, has revived in the last few weeks interest in the agitation to place definite and drastic limits upon the number of students to be admitted to the various Colleges.

The financial future of the National University is inevitably and inextricably bound up with the financial future of the rest of the nation. By the law of 1929 (see above pp. 43 ff.) the University was assured of a minimum annual subsidy of 4,000,000 pesos. This amount has already been set aside for the year 1930, but whether or not the actual cash will be turned over to the University will depend upon the continued stability, financial and political, of the Mexican government.

The Students

The word most often applied to the students of the National University of Mexico is "undisciplined." Both those within the University and those outside of it testify that with rare exceptions the students are lacking in seriousness of purpose and the ability to do hard and consistent work. They are very irregular in their attendance at classes and are almost entirely lacking in what is sometimes called school-spirit. Apparently the interests and energies of the student body are more often engaged in University, local, and national politics than they are in the business of study.

It should be said, however, by way of explanation of the attitude of the student body that the conditions in the University are hardly conducive to that type of intellectual

endeavor which has traditionally been associated with institutions of this sort. In the first place, as a prominent engineer in Mexico has pointed out, "If an investigation were made of the living conditions of the student body of the University, the facts which would be discovered would be staggering — the boarding houses in which many of the students live are badly ventilated, unsanitary; and are often located in close proximity to billiard rooms, gambling places, and houses of prostitution."

In the second place, as the University has been organized and equipped, there has been very little opportunity for the students to find an outlet for their energies in sports and social activities. Furthermore, it must be remembered that due to the tradition of the country and perhaps to physiological factors the average student of University age in Mexico is somewhat more mature than his brother in the United States. Sr. Moisés Sáenz, Sub-Secretary of Education, has commented on these two points as follows:

"The material conditions of the University in general have been bad. There has been no opportunity in the buildings for student activities of the sort that help to "let off steam", no gymnasiums, no athletic fields. When a student has passed through the selective years of the Preparatory School and finally comes to the Law School, for example, he is a pretty capable individual. There is nothing wrong with his brains, but there is lack of efficiency. The students are very free. They interest themselves in the life of the city and often do not attend classes at all.

"Then there is the general unrest in Mexico. It is a country of changing philosophy and method. The students are alive and they want their share of things. They are very precocious and accuse the teachers of not being revolutionary. The whole system of higher education in Mexico has always over-stimulated the life of the student. He has been taken too seriously, has been regarded as an adult. The secondary school children, even those only 13 years old, are never spoken of as children but as young

men. So when he comes to the University he is very much of an adult. He knows more about public affairs and about life than a student of corresponding age would know either in the United States or France." 28

The Lack of the Scientific Spirit

Under this heading, the writer can do no better than to quote the eloquent words spoken by the present Secretary of Education, Sr. Ezequiel Padilla, before the National Congress on the occasion of the granting of its autonomy to the National University:

"The University of Mexico does not know what research means: the University must wait until strangers. strangers with Saxon names difficult to pronounce, come to study our country. When you wish to study our problems, you must read works written in Anglish or French, because the University has not made investigations nor entered into our political struggles nor studied the life of the people. The University is dressed for "show purposes" only. The teachers have no traditions for research. All of us have attended some one or other of the University courses; we know that instruction is given from foreign texts -- there are even histories of Mexico studied in English! Mathematics, chemistry, physics, biological sciences -- all branches of science which are intimately related to the resources and industries of Mexico. must be studied in foreign books; we master the fauna and flora of Arabia and Australia /but not that of Oaxaca/; in mining we learn not what there is to know of Zacatecas. Guanajuato. or Guerrero. but what is going on in some remote section of Alaska. When we study the social sciences, we must look to the peasant on the banks of the Nile, the Seine, or

the Mississippi; and when we speak of labor, we do not think of the workers in our own great factories, but are asked to consider the life of the worker who is in Manchester, Glasgow, or Pittsburgh. Books in English tell us nothing of what we have in Mexico.

"Furthermore -- and this ia a very important fact which I emphasize for the young students who are listening to me -true universities, since universities began and especially in modern times, are not schools for professional studies; and yet ours specializes in the teaching of the professions. In Germany, professional studies are called "bread-and-butter sciences" and occupy a secondary place. In English universities, in the great American universities, professional studies must be carried on in special institutions, because the university is not a school for professions; it is a school for research, for the examination of truths. Our University is a group of professional schools in which the professional egoistic spirit dominates. The student who is learning a profession does not have the disinterested spirit. He is anxious to arm himself for the battle of life; he awaits with impatience the completion of his study in order that he may enter the public struggle with a commercial eagerness for enriching himself; and this spirit alone is lowering the moral level of the professions. If there were any other tendency besides this one in the University it would be well; but we have already noted the very narrow, very cloistered, very egoistic organization of our University ...

"If we go to the United States, a plutocratic country, we will see that there the student is not cloistered, does not live shut up in his University. In the University of Berkeley

eighty percent of the students are workers, that is, in order to study they pay tuition and in order to pay tuition they work.

"Many of you have been in the United States. The American student goes out from his University to run an automobile, to work in the mines; he goes to the farm, to the theater, to the workshops, everywhere, and thus, even in that enormous plutocracy, the student is in continuous contact with the soul of his people. But with the Mexican student it is not so. The question is of importance to every Mexican. The Mexican student is cloistered; he never goes out, he has no occasion to be in contact with the soul of his people. In the midst of his professional egoism he lives, from the time he enters the University until he leaves it, ignorant of the great needs, the turmoil, the suffering of his own country." 24

The Future of the University of Mexico

From the facts which have been presented in the foregoing pages it is clear that as it is at present constituted the National University of Mexico is not, and in the nature of the case, cannot fulfill the functions appropriate to a University. It is not the purpose of this report to suggest what should be done in order to remedy the present state of affairs, but obviously something in the way of a much more drastic and thorough-going reorganization is necessary than that conceived in the law of July 1929. Indeed, it is perhaps not too much to say that what Mexico needs at the present time is the organization in the sense of the creation of a National University and not a reorganization, a reshuffling, of the present heterogeneous collection of Colleges, departments, professional schools,

preparatory schools, and institutions for the teaching of everything from how to make perfume to how to be an expert clerk in the war department.

Some of the leaders in the educational field in Mexico have for some time past been thinking along the lines just indicated in the above paragraph and their thought has begun to take shape in an agitation for the creation of what has been called the University City. This is nothing less than a proposal to abandon the present buildings and equipment of the University and to build a completely new, adequate, and modern institution located in some appropriate place near the City of Mexico. In Section IV of this monograph are set forth the details of this dream: "the present University transferred to a suitable location, properly grouped in colleges, adequately housed, and forming a compact unit — the national cultural center of Mexico."

NOTES

- 1. The Seminar on Relations with Mexico, 1928, article by Moises Saenz. "General Survey of Education in Mexico", p.28.
- 2. "El Esfuerzo Educativo en México" 1924-1928", publicaciones de la Secretaría de Educación Pública, 1929, Vol. I. pp. 394-95.
- 3. Ibid. pp. 338 and 431.
- 4. Priestly, Herbert Ingram -- The Mexican Nation -- a History, Macmillan, New York, 1926, p.152.
- 5. Ibid. p.152.
- 6. Catálogo de la Universidad Nacional de México, 1926-27, p.12.
- 7. Priestly, op.cit., p.153.
- 8. El Esfuerzo Educativo en México 1924-28, op.cit. p.548.
- 9. Ibid. p.549.
- 10. Informe Rendido por el C. Lic. Portes Gil ante el H. Congreso de la Unión, Diario Oficial, 1929, p.111.
- 11. El Universal, October 12, 1928.
- 12. El Excelsior, October 25, 1928.
- 13. El Universal, September 5, 1929.
- 14. El Esfuerzo Educativo en México 1924-28, op.cit. pp.604-5.
- 15. Ibid, p.604-6.
- Plan de Estudios Programas y Reglamento de Reconocimientos Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales, Talleres Gráficas de la Nación, 1929, pp. ix-x.
- 17. Ibid. pp. xxiii-xiv.
- 18. El Esfuerzo Educativo en México, op.cit. pp.598-9.
- 19. El Universal, November 26, 1929, article by Rafael Carrasco Puente.
- 20. Compare A Survey of the Educational System of Porto Rico, Columbia University, 1926, pp.412-13.
- 21. El Esfuerzo Educativo en México, op.cit. pp.693-95.

- 22. El Universal, September 26, 1929.
- 23. Sáenz, op.cit. p.21.
- 24. Padilla, Ezequiel -- En la Tribuna de la Revolución, Cultura, México, D.F., 1929, pp. 263 ff.