

SCIENCE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1909

UNIVERSITY REGISTRATION STATISTICS

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THE registration returns for November 1, 1909, of twenty-eight of the leading universities of the country will be found tabulated on page 898. Three institutions have been added to the list this year, namely, Texas, Tulane and Washington (St. Louis). The introductory comments made last year on the relative value of the figures presented in the table¹ should be borne in mind in studying the statistics herewith submitted. May I point out once again, however, that I do not wish the reader to infer that in my opinion size is the primary consideration in examining an institution of learning; on the contrary, I am thoroughly convinced that there is as much fault to be found with an overgrown department, school or university as there is with an overgrown city or potato. We are concerned in the present instance, however, with values expressed merely in student units and not in terms of productive efficiency.

This year four institutions—Iowa, Minnesota, New York University and Yale—show a loss in enrollment compared with the previous year, as against two in 1908 and five in 1907. On the whole, considerable gains have been made all along the line, the increase in several instances being quite marked. The greatest gains in terms of student units, including the summer session attendance, have been made during the year by Columbia, Chicago, Wisconsin, California, Cornell, Ohio and Pennsylvania, in the order named, each one of

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