

Ives's students did not need to "matriculate" till their second year—that is, they have been "students studying for a degree" before they had properly come through the gate. Their alma mater treated them as her children, and after a year's care offered to legitimise the relation between herself and them. It was evident that similar concessions would have to be made in the case of the other branches of study if the University was to attract to itself all the young aspirants after learning which the colony ought to educate.

The Vice-Chancellor, in his capacity as the official representative of the council on the senate, intimated how it was intended to deal with the question of matriculation in the future legislation of the University. The council could not formulate the entire scheme for all the various degrees of the University until the clause had been accepted by the senate which repealed the existing regulations for matriculation. The Vice-Chancellor laid before the senate for the information of the members a series of reports which had for some months been under consideration by the various sub-committees, but had only that day been accepted by the council. These reports were not open for discussion, but they indicated how certain parts of the new senior examination might be taken as equivalent to matriculation for the various courses of study, and explained why it was that no mention was made of matriculation in the regulations under consideration. One sentence in those reports is of especial significance. "That students not passing the senior public examination can enter as matriculated students of the University on satisfying the professors in the arts or in the science schools that they are capable of entering upon the first year's course." This puts matriculation in the University on a similar footing to that which it occupies in most of the other Universities of the world, and opens the door to all who can enter to study for the degree which is most attractive to them. There are many points in the proposed scheme which might have been challenged and perhaps amended if the ruling of the warden had

been different as to the limits of what constitutes a statute. A resolution was moved that the clauses be taken seriatim. This the warden ruled out of order on the ground that the Act which incorporates the University would not allow of it. That Act says that "no new statute, or regulation, or alteration, or repeal of any existing statute, shall be of any force until approved by the senate." The senate has thus the power to reject but not to amend a "statute" or a "regulation." The practical question for the warden to decide was how much of the material before him was to be included in a "statute." He decided that the series of clauses must be taken as one scheme, and must be accepted or rejected by the senate in its entirety. The senate acquiesced quietly in the ruling of the warden and accepted the scheme as a whole. If the warden had ruled that each clause was a statute he would clearly have committed the senate to a fruitless discussion, for the acceptance of some clauses while others were rejected would have been virtually amending the proposed statutes and would have contravened the Act. It seems to us that the warden would have more clearly interpreted the Act, and at all events would have been equally faithful to its intention, if his ruling had been that such parts of the scheme as were coherent and inseparable must be taken as a single regulation. This distinction

between 'separable' and 'inseparable' provisions is well known in law. It means that if two sections are so separate, and provide for and deal with such different matters that they are not substantially one proposition, one may, and the other need not, be rejected. The second and fourth sections under "public examinations" do not stand or fall together, but other sections are in a different position. To reject all sections under the head "preliminary examination" on the ground that such examinations are beneath the dignity of the University, and to accept the "junior public examination," would be, in effect, to propose a new scheme of examination, and would not, therefore, be constitutional. The warden's ruling was an easy and short way of getting out of the difficulty. It stopped what would have been an interminable discussion. It was right in principle, but if it had been less absolute, and if he had taken upon himself as warden to declare what were and what were not inseparable sections, he would have been as true in principle to the constitution of the University, and would have given the senate an opportunity of expressing its opinions in a more useful and practical form.

Many issues were introduced into the discussion which were, as Mr. Hartley remarked, quite beside the question. Of these none was more curious than the discussion about female students. It was urged as an objection to the scheme that it favored the girls at the expense of the boys. A careful consideration of the old and the new regulations will lead to a conclusion which is almost the reverse of this. In the old regulations certain concessions are made to female candidates which are injurious in their effect. They seem to set a lower standard before the girls than that which youths of the other sex have to attain to. In the pathway to academic distinction it is not only no kindness to make things easy, but it is a dishonor and an insult to do so. To tell a girl that she may be accounted equal to a boy who has passed a stiffer examination is to affront her intelligence and her dignity. This defect is remedied in these new regulations, and will surely meet with general

approbation. Female students need no unfair start in the race. They should be placed side by side with their rivals, and neither should have the advantage. The ladies are proving themselves able to hold their own all over the world. Even in the London University this is the case, and the London examinations are proverbially stiff. In the recently published list of those who have obtained the degree of M.A. in London this year three out of eleven are ladies. That is, two ladies have gained the degree in classics, and one in mental and moral philosophy. If the London University had made any relaxation of its rules in favor of its female students it would never have succeeded, as it has done, in raising the standard of female education throughout England, and those who had gained its degrees would have been ashamed to wear them. Amendments might doubtless be suggested to the new code of regulations which would be improvements. There is nothing, however, to prevent the council from accepting such modifications of their scheme as are desired by the minority, if they be really beneficial. An amended statute might be passed by the council and passed by the senate in ample time for the next calendar. If, for instance, something more definite could be stated