

in existence there is a very wide range in educational ideals and attainments : at the one end, are many of deplorably low standard, drawing most inadequately prepared students ; at the other end, are some with as high intellectual standards among the élite of their students as can be found in the élite of European students, and in several cases with a range of scientific and humanistic interest and equipment wider than in any but a very few European institutions. The great majority of them are doing creditable work. And their expansion—whether they are independent in their endowment and government like the great universities of the east, such as Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Princeton, Chicago, or are State universities like those of the West and Middle West, such as Wisconsin, Michigan, California—has been embarrassingly rapid, especially in the last two or three decades. Comparatively small institutions with four or five hundred students have almost suddenly found themselves confronted with a couple of thousand : the older and more famous institutions have in some instances been compelled severely to restrict the number of entrants, because they could not cope with them. This is partly the outcome of general business prosperity ; the number of men who can afford to send their sons to the university is