

December 14, 1949

Foreign Students at Cornell University
First Term Year 1949-50

Every year I have distributed to the Deans, Heads of Departments and Administrative Officials, a summary of the foreign student registration in the University. This may be of increasing interest because of the wide publicity given to foreign student programs throughout the United States and the importance attached to the international interchange of students by various branches of the Federal Government.

Attached are two lists, one shows the numbers by individual countries and general areas, the other shows the distribution in the University by colleges and schools. In arriving at these figures, I have classified as foreign students only those who intend to return to their countries upon the completion of their studies. In other words, recent immigrants, who have come to the United States for permanent residence, are not included. There are, of course, many such who in their background and training are completely foreign and who need help and assistance but cannot properly be called foreign students.

In comparing the registration with last year, several things may be noted. We have a slight increase this year. Actually, this increase would have been considerably greater if all the foreign students who were accepted in the University had been able to get here. However, changing political and financial conditions in some countries prevented many students from coming. The number from Europe, the British Commonwealth, and the Near East has increased. The number from the Far East has declined, chiefly because of conditions in China and India. The number from Latin America also shows a small decline.

The changing situation throughout the world has affected the percentage of graduate students to undergraduates. Last year, about two-thirds of the foreign students at Cornell were graduate students, whereas, this year only a little more than half are graduate students. The number of countries represented this year is sixty compared with forty-nine a year ago. This is desirable as it brings the university community into touch with more parts of the world and is a widening of Cornell's influence, interest, and contribution to international education.

Although many people have talked with enthusiasm about larger and larger increases in the number of foreign students every year, recent developments throughout the world indicate a strong possibility that the number will decline next year. The situation in China will probably mean that very few, if any, new Chinese will be able to come to the United States. The monetary situation throughout most of the world will also tend to decrease the number of foreign students who can afford to come to this country and may even affect some of the foreign government scholarship programs. The problem of finances is becoming more and more difficult. It has almost reached the point where the student who does not need financial help is welcomed with open arms. I am preparing a statement on the awards of scholarships by Cornell University to foreign students for the current year which will be distributed as soon as it is ready to everyone receiving this report.



Donald C. Kerr
Counselor to Foreign Students

Foreign Students
1st Term 1949-50

Distribution by Colleges and Schools

	<u>G.</u>	<u>U.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Agriculture	44	42	86
Architecture	5	7	12
Arts & Sciences	37	21	58
Business & Public Administration	7	-	7
Engineering	50	49	99
Home Economics	8	9	17
Hotel Administration	-	13	13
Industrial & Labor Relations	3	3	6
Law	1	-	1
Nutrition	9	-	9
Veterinary	<u>7</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7</u>
	171	144	315

Distribution in Engineering

	<u>G.</u>	<u>U.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aeronautical	8	-	8
Chemical	-	7	7
Civil	20	12	32
Electrical	13	9	22
Mechanical	<u>9</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>30</u>
	50	49	99

Graduate Students	54%
Undergraduates	46%
Men	27%
Women	66%

Foreign Students
1st Term Year 1949-50

Europe (except United Kingdom)

Belgium	2
Denmark	4
Finland	1
France	4
Germany	7
Greece	4
Hungary	1
Iceland	2
Italy	3
Netherlands	2
Norway	12
Portugal	2
Spain	1
Sweden	2
Switzerland	1
	<u>48</u>

Far East

Afghanistan	8
Burma	1
China	57
India	18
Japan	1
Korea	4
Nepal	1
Pakistan	1
Philippines	8
Siam	9
	<u>108</u>

British Commonwealth

Australia	4
Bermuda	1
Canada	66
England	10
Gold Coast	1
Jamaica	3
New Zealand	2
Scotland	1
South Africa	1
St. Lucia	1
Wales	1
	<u>91</u>

Latin America

Argentina	2
Bolivia	2
Brazil	6
Colombia	3
Costa Rica	3
Cuba	3
Dominican Republic	1
Ecuador	1
Guatemala	2
Mexico	11
Panama	1
Peru	1
Venezuela	4
	<u>40</u>

Near East

Cyprus	2
Egypt	3
Ethiopia	2
Iran	3
Iraq	7
Lebanon	2
Palestine	1
Saudi Arabia	2
Turkey	2
	<u>24</u>

Miscellaneous

Haiti	2
Netherlands, W.I.	2
	4

Total number of students	315
Number of Countries	60