

the portion of the report for which he is responsible is clear, concise and practical. Dr. Cunningham's report contains a full account of phosphorus necrosis, and is illustrated by diagrams showing various stages of the diseases in the teeth and jaws. This condition is the most frequent and most obvious of the poisonous effects of the phosphorus; it is not by any means the only one. He also gives in full the precautions which should be adopted in all factories for combating the injurious effects of the poisonous fumes. There are various appendices which give in detail the facts upon which the main body of the report is founded. In the match industry two forms of phosphorus are used: *yellow phosphorus*, which is highly poisonous, and gives off poisonous fumes which consist mainly of low oxides of phosphorus; and *red phosphorus*, which does not fume, and is hardly poisonous even if swallowed. Then, as is well known, there are two principal varieties of matches used: 'safety matches,' which are tipped with a composition free from phosphorus; the surface on which they strike is covered with a composition of which red phosphorus forms a part. The 'strike anywhere' matches are tipped with a paste containing yellow phosphorus in a proportion which varies from 3 to 30 per cent. It is in the making of such matches only that danger arises. In regard to them the commission reports: "So far as the home consumption is concerned, it does not seem that the prohibition of the use of yellow phosphorus would involve any serious hardship, and this course has already been adopted by Denmark, and decided upon by Switzerland, care being taken at the same time to prohibit the use or importation of yellow phosphorus matches. But neither of these countries has or had any export trade to lose. The United Kingdom, Belgium, Sweden and Japan manufacture largely for export, and it is feared that immediate prohibition of yellow phosphorus would at once divert that portion of our trade to other countries, unless international agreement upon the subject was arrived at. If grave injury to the health of the workpeople were inevitable the loss of the trade might well be regarded as the smaller sacrifice of the two, but the result of the inquiry points to a different con-

elusion. With due selection of workpeople, strict medical and dental supervision, proper structural and administrative conditions, and substitution of machinery for hand labor, it seems that the dangers hitherto attending the use of yellow phosphorus can be overcome."

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

MRS. JANE L. STANFORD has executed deeds conveying to Stanford University the greater part of her property.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY has received a further gift of \$150,000 from Mr. Samuel Cupples for the support of the department of Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering and Architecture for five years, and a dormitory to cost \$100,000 from Mrs. John E. Liggett, in memory of her late husband.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has given \$50,000 to the Stevens Institute, Hoboken, for the erection of an engineering laboratory.

THE quarter of a million pounds required to inaugurate the University of Birmingham has been collected. The anonymous donor who has already subscribed liberally towards the fund has offered to give £12,500 if the total amount be raised to £300,000.

MOUNT Holyoke College has received a gift of \$10,000 from James Talcott, of New York, to complete the botanical gardens and plant-houses which are now under way at the institution.

A COLLEGE of Comparative Medicine is about to be established at Harvard University. A chair of comparative pathology has been endowed by the fund given by Mr. George Fabian, and appropriations have been made from the bequest of the late Henry L. Pierce for a chair of comparative physiology and for laboratories. It is intended that the college shall perform the functions of the Pasteur Institute, of Paris, and the Jenner Institute, of London.

THE Rev. W. H. P. Faunce, pastor of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, New York City, has been elected President of Brown University.

PROFESSOR HENRY G. JESUP, who has held the chair of botany at Dartmouth College for twenty-two years, has resigned.