

in the meanwhile, other institutions are intelligently collecting wholesale in diverse interesting regions, while we are content with occasional specimens which usually have no history, or at most a very imperfect one, and for these we often have to pay a stiff profit to a dealer."

THE New York *Times* lays stress on its announcement that the newspaper contains 'all the news that's fit to print.' Does the editor regard the following, taken from a recent issue as 'fit to print'?

"James Conroy, of 127 Hopkins Avenue, Jersey City, claims to have devised a system of springs and weights, which, operating as a balance, will run machinery without the aid of fuel, electricity, or any other motive power. The system is so simple, he says, that the only wonder about it is that it was never discovered before. It may be operated, he says, by a boy. While it is not perpetual motion, he says it will run until one of the springs or some other part of the arrangement breaks, but that will only mean a cessation of movement until a new part is substituted for that which is broken. He will not exhibit his machinery, but says he has demonstrated its power by operating a pump in his house. All he will say is that the power is furnished according to a decimal system making ten pounds the unit of weight. [This unit may be increased by multiples of ten until the desired power for any machine is attained. He says he can easily satisfy any engineer of the validity of his claims. Another thing Mr. Conroy claims is that should any part of the machinery break the machine will not be wholly disabled, but will continue to run with a power diminished only by the broken part, which will be one-tenth, the diminution continuing in that ratio for each broken part."

THE Calcutta correspondent of the London *Times* cables that since the Pasteur Institute was opened at Kasauli about 100 patients bitten by mad dogs have been treated, among whom not a single death has occurred. Appeals for funds from the municipalities, however, have been rejected. Native opinion, especially among the Hindus, joins the Buddhists in pronouncing against the Institute owing to a mistaken idea that cruel operations are practised upon living dumb animals. Memorials have been submitted to the Government protesting against State aid, though this is only given to enable British soldiers to be treated in India instead of proceeding to Paris, thus saving a

large sum annually. Bishop Welldon, preaching in the cathedral, referred to the opposition to the Institute in England and India. He said he had visited Kasauli and seen the operations, and stated that the medical process was characterized in all its aspects by the most thoughtful and scrupulous humanity. Anesthetics were employed, and the animals showed no visible sign of suffering, dying eventually, not of hydrophobia, but of paralysis. He urged people to be slow to condemn a remedial process which, at the cost of a slight infliction of pain on animals, relieved and removed suffering so intense as hydrophobia in the case of human beings.

THE report of the Meteorological Council of the Royal Society for the year ended March 31, 1900, has been issued. The work of the council is summarized under the heads of ocean meteorology, weather telegraphy and climatology. The inquiry relative to the unusually severe weather which prevailed in the Atlantic during the winter 1898-99 has been completed, and the charts illustrating the results of the investigations will be ready for publication shortly. A table is given comparing the forecasts for the United Kingdom with the subsequent weather actually experienced. The complete success, partial success, partial failure and complete failure of the forecasts are estimated according to definite rules. Partial success and partial failure are defined as meaning that the forecast was correct or incorrect for more than half the elements dealt with at the places of observation situated in the district in question. This table, when summarized, gives 55 per cent. of complete successes, 27 per cent. of partial successes, 12 per cent. of partial failures and 6 per cent. of complete failures.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE following large gifts for education have been made during the week: John D. Archbold of New York City, a vice-president of the Standard Oil Company, has given \$400,000 to the endowment fund of Syracuse University, on the condition that a like amount be raised among other friends of the institution; Mr. Andrew Carnegie has given \$225,000 to the

Upper Iowa University, at Fayette, Ia., to be used preferably for a library, and \$50,000 to Aurora College, an Illinois institution; Augustana College at Rock Island, Ill., has received about \$30,000 from Messrs. E. C. and J. A. Ericsson, of Boone, Ia.; Mr. John D. Rockefeller has offered to give \$15,000 to Carson and Newman College, a Baptist institution in Tennessee, provided \$50,000 in addition be raised; Carleton College, at Northfield, Minn., has added \$150,000 to its permanent endowment fund, \$50,000 being the gift of Dr. D. K. Pearsons, and the remaining \$100,000 being raised from various sources.

GIFTS to educational institutions in Great Britain include the following: Mr. Charles W. Mitchell, £20,000 to the University of Aberdeen to pay the debt of the University; Lord Durham, £1,000 towards the building fund of the Durham College of Science, and the Misses Mercer, £1,000 to establish a scholarship, or scholarships, in chemistry at the Blackburn Technical School in memory of the late Mr. John Mercer, the discoverer of the process of Mercerized yarn.

THE registration at Harvard University, as recorded in the issue of December 21st last of this journal, appears to need correction. Professor Storer calls our attention to the fact that the figures for the Bussey Institute and for the veterinary school were not included. These should be 33 and 18 respectively. On the other hand, the registration of the Medical School is too large. Dean Richardson, of the Medical School has explained the matter as follows: "Mr. Cram must have misunderstood your question and gave you the number enrolled, which at that time was 600, and added to it the number which were enrolled in the summer courses, 149, making a total of 749."

THE President of the Board of Education, London, has appointed a committee, consisting of Sir William de W. Abney, K.C.B., F.R.S. (Chairman), Sir Philip Magnus, Sir Swire Smith, Mr. G. R. Redgrave, Mr. W. Bousfield, Mr. W. Vibart Dixon, with Mr. A. E. Cooper, Board of Education, South Kensington, as Secretary, to consider the best means for coordinating the technological work of the Board of Education

with that at present carried on by other educational organizations.

A CABLE despatch from St. Petersburg reports that one hundred and fifty students, recently arrested at Kieff for engaging in political agitation, are to be expatriated to Port Arthur, where they will do military service. The same fate awaits scores of students arrested at the capital on a similar charge. The ferment continues among students throughout the country, and disturbances are anticipated. The troubles at Kieff do not seem to have been due to political agitation but to the unwillingness of the students to attend the lectures of an unpopular professor.

MR. H. V. CARPENTER, assistant in physics at the University of Illinois, has accepted an assistant professorship in physics and electrical engineering in the Washington Agricultural College, at Pullman, Washington. Mr. Carpenter is a graduate of the University of Illinois.

MR. U. S. HANNA, Harrison fellow in mathematics and astronomy of the University of Pennsylvania, has resigned his fellowship to resume his duties as instructor in mathematics at the University of Indiana.

MR. S. W. REAVES, graduate scholar in Cornell university, has been appointed instructor of mathematics in Orchard Lake Military Academy.

Dr. F. MONTESER has been promoted to a professorship of mathematics in the School of Pedagogy, New York University.

Mr. C. T. R. WILSON, F.R.S., fellow of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, has been appointed university lecturer in experimental physics in succession to Professor Wilberforce, who, it will be remembered, recently accepted a call to Liverpool.

Dr. P. DRUDE, professor of physics in the University at Giessen, has been called to Tubingen. Dr. A. Voelzmann, of Berlin, has been promoted to a professorship of zoology. Dr. A. Steur has qualified as docent in geology in the Technical Institute at Darmstadt, and Dr. George Wetzel for anatomy in the University at Berlin.