

striking northeast to Lake Chad. The objective of the expedition is Kuka, on the shores of Lake Chad, and it is unlikely that this point will be reached before the end of the year. Lieutenant Alexander's movements after reaching that town are uncertain, as it has not been settled whether the explorers shall seek to penetrate the Great Desert or return *viâ* the German Cameroons. Some specially constructed steel boats for the navigation of the shallow rivers in the Lake Chad region have been made in England. The expedition will probably not return for two years.

Nature states that some considerable rearrangements have been made in the museums at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. A new gallery 130 feet long by 16 feet wide at the back of museum No. III. was opened on February 1. To this the entire collection of Gymnosperms (Conifers, Cycads and Gnetaeae, including Welwitschia) has been transferred. The space in museum No. I. thus set free has been utilized in making a more effective display of its contents, which had become very crowded. The well-lighted wall space in the new gallery has enabled the collection of maps and plans of the establishment at various periods to be brought together. Several of these have been contributed by the late Queen and by His Majesty's Office of Works, and are of considerable historical interest. A set of the fine photographs of Kew in its various aspects which were sent by the government to the Paris Exhibition of 1900 are also shown, as well as an extensive series of photographs of coniferous trees in their native countries.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY has received a gift of \$250,000 from Mr. David Sears, of Boston, a graduate of the class of '47.

MRS. WILLIAM E. DODGE has offered the University of Virginia \$40,000 for a Young Men's Christian Association building provided other friends of the institution raise an endowment of \$20,000.

It is announced that the bequest of James Woolson to Boston University, most of which

will not be paid for a long time, will amount to \$325,000.

G. H. MYERS has given the Forest School of Yale University the library of the late Professor Robert Henry, of Munich, containing about 1,500 books and pamphlets on forestry.

It is announced that Mr. P. N. Russell, who for many years carried on extensive engineering works in Sydney, but has latterly resided in London, has made a further donation of £50,000 for an additional endowment to the School of Engineering at the University of Sydney. Mr. Russell originated this school some seven years since by an endowment of £50,000.

THE legislature of the state of Ohio has passed an emergency bill for the temporary relief of the departments of chemistry, pharmacy and metallurgy, the building for which was, as we have already announced, burned to the ground on February 19 at a loss of \$125,000.

DENNY HALL, a brown stone building belonging to Dickinson College, was destroyed by fire on March 3. The loss is estimated at \$60,000, which is said to be covered by insurance.

THE University of Toronto has asked the government to provide a new physical laboratory.

KING EDWARD opened the new buildings of the University of Cambridge on March 1. These included a geological museum, a botanical institute, new medical buildings, comprising laboratories and lecture rooms for the departments of medicine, surgery, pharmacology, and pathology and the Humphry museum of anatomy and pathology.

DR. ALEXANDER SMITH, B.Sc. (Edinburgh), who has for some years been associate professor of chemistry in the University of Chicago, has been appointed a professor of chemistry and director of general and physical chemistry in that institution.

MR. WILLIAM HARPER DAVIS, fellow in psychology at Columbia University, has been appointed instructor in philosophy in Lehigh University.