

ries at one end with the American series, and ultimately there will be a similar connection established between Vancouver and Seattle, thus completing the loop.

TOPOGRAPHERS and geologists of the United States Geological Survey will be at work during the coming summer in the region south and east of Tonopah, Nevada. A party of fifteen or twenty topographers under the direction of Mr. R. H. Chapman will go into the field about the middle of May. They will make surveys for three topographic maps. Two of these maps will be detail maps made by Mr. William Stranahan, one of the Goldfield district, which is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  miles southeast of Tonopah, and one of the Bullfrog district, which is about 60 miles east of Goldfield. The Goldfield map will cover approximately 40 square miles and will be drawn on a scale of 2,000 feet to the inch. Triangulation and leveling will be carried from Owens Valley to get control for the Bullfrog map, which will also be drawn on a scale of 2,000 feet to the inch. The third map will be a reconnaissance map of an area about 120 miles long by 90 miles wide, or about 10,000 square miles, south and southeast of Goldfield. It will include Goldfield in its northwest corner. The reconnaissance map will include part of the Death Valley. Levels for the control of all this work are now being carried forward from Mohave by a topographic party under the direction of Mr. R. H. Farmer. It is hoped that there will be an opportunity of running a level line to find the correct elevation of Death Valley. Mr. E. M. Douglas, chief of the western section of topography has computed that the lowest point in the Valley is 450 feet below sea level, which makes it the lowest point in the United States, but the elevation has never been accurately and incontestably determined. Geologic studies in these same Nevada areas will be prosecuted during the summer under the direction of Mr. J. E. Spurr. With the assistance of Mr. S. H. Ball, Mr. Spurr will investigate the general geology of the district covered by the reconnaissance map. Mr. Spurr will also make a special report on the geology of the mining camps in

this area. A third report will have to do with the geology of the Goldfield district. Mr. Spurr will be assisted in this last inquiry by Mr. G. H. Garrey.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

A TEACHING observatory will be established by the Ontario government at the University of Toronto. Dr. C. A. Chant expects to visit the observatories of the United States to study their plans and methods.

THE main building of Vanderbilt University was destroyed by fire on April 20.

THE Suez Canal Company has voted 50 guineas to be announced at the banquet over which Mr. Chamberlain will preside on May 10, on behalf of the London School of Tropical Medicine, this being a gift in recognition of the school's services in the tropics.

THE Geological Department of Colby College, Waterville, Maine, has been abolished by the trustees of the college, the reason assigned for the action being a financial one. Professor W. S. Bayley, who has been in charge of the department during the past sixteen years will therefore sever his connection with the institution at the close of the present college year.

DR. CHARLES M. BAKEWELL, assistant professor of philosophy in the University of California, has been elected to a professorship of philosophy in Yale University.

MR. CHARLES W. BROWN, of Lehigh University, has been appointed instructor in geology in Brown University.

FELLOWSHIPS in zoology and entomology at the Ohio State University have been granted respectively to Mr. C. F. Jackson, of De Pauw University, and Mr. W. B. Herms, of German Wallace College, Berea, Ohio.

PROFESSOR WALTER KÖNIG, of Greifswald, has accepted a professorship of physics in the University of Giessen.

THE council of University College, London, has appointed Sir Thomas Barlow to the Holme Chair of Clinical Medicine, vacant through the resignation of Professor F. T. Roberts.