chrysotile asbestos have created a demand for it that is now in excess of the supply. The high price which can be obtained for the chrysotile asbestos when it is in fibers of sufficent length for spinning permits the mining of this mineral in some places where the cost of mining would become prohibitory with any material decrease in price. One of the most interesting features of Dr. Pratt's report this year is a description of the results of certain experiments that have been made on asbestos building board by Mr. George F. Sever, of New York City, for the Keasbey and Mattison Company, of the same city. The tests were made on asbestos building lumber and magnesia building lumber and show conclusively that both these materials are superior to wood for the purposes for which they are manufactured, but that the asbestos lumber is much better than the magnesia. Such asbestos lumber, when employed in the construction of street railway and standard railway cars, for covering the end framing, should prevent the cars from taking fire by any derangement of the electrical apparatus. Another type of asbestos building material that is beginning to be extensively used is asbestos board or sheathing, for roofing and for side walls. An asbestos shingle recently patented by Messrs. Keasbey and Mattison is composed of asbestos fiber and hydraulic cement. These shingles are much stronger than slate and lighter in weight. They are made in three colors, gray, slate and tile red, in squares 4½ inches on a side, with two corners of the square truncated. The use of asbestos materials in building has been considered chiefly from the standpoint of fireproofing; yet there is another and perhaps as important a reason for their employment, and that is for preserving an even temperature in the building erected. Houses so built as to be surrounded by asbestos should be cooler in summer and warmer in winter than other houses.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE McCormick family have added $1,000,000 to the endowment of the McCormick Theological Seminary of Chicago.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has offered to give Radcliffe College $75,000 for a library building on condition that an equal sum be collected for its endowment.

LORD CURZON has laid the foundation stone of the Agricultural College at Pusa. This college and experiment station were made possible by a gift of $150,000 which Mr. Henry Phipps gave Lord Curzon to use for the good of the people of India.

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY has received £20,000 under the will of the late Mr. Thomas Best.

THE Boston *Transcript* reports that the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has adopted by a vote of fifty-seven to six a report adverse to the proposed alliance with Harvard University.

DR. JULIUS STIEGLITZ, of the department of chemistry of the University of Chicago, has been appointed to a professorship of chemistry in that institution.

AT the University of Colorado, Dr. M. E. Miles, who has been demonstrator of anatomy, has been appointed professor of anatomy; Dr. E. H. Robertson, professor of bacteriology and pathology, has resigned to engage in other work; and Mr. G. S. Dodds has been appointed instructor in zoology.

MR. WILLIAM E. BROOKE has been promoted to an assistant professorship of engineering mathematics in the University of Minnesota.

DR. J. CARLTON BELL has been appointed instructor in experimental psychology in Wellesley College.

MR. STANLEY DUNKERLEY, M.Sc., head of the department of applied mathematics in the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, has been appointed professor of engineering in the University of Manchester.

AT King's College, London, Mr. Peter Thompson, M.D., has been elected professor of anatomy; and Professor Arthur Dendy, D.Sc., South African College, Cape Town, has been elected professor of zoology.