

by merely solfataric phenomena, for three years. Fissuring of the cone and slight outpourings of lava began in May, 1905, and continued until April 5, 1906, when the fourth great outburst from the principal crater occurred, accompanied by the formation of deeper and larger fissures in the southeastern wall of the cone, from which a great mass of fluid and scoriaceous lava was erupted. After a pause the maximum outburst took place during the night of April 7 and 8, and blew 3,000 feet into the air scoriæ and lapilli of lava as fragments derived from the wreckage of the cone. The southwesterly wind carried this ash to Ottajano and San Giuseppe, which were buried under three feet of it, and even swept it on to the Adriatic and Montenegro. At this time the lava which reached Torre Annunziato was erupted. The decrescent phase began on April 8, but the collapse of the cone of the principal crater was accompanied by the ejection of steam and dust to a height of from 22,000 feet to 26,000 feet. On April 9 and 10 the wind was northeast, and the dust was carried over Torre del Greco and as far as Spain; but on April 11 the cloud was again impelled northward. The ash in the earlier eruptions was dark in color and made of materials derived directly from the usual type of leucotephritic magma; but later it became grayer and mixed with weathered elastic material from the cone. The great cone had an almost horizontal rim on April 13, very little higher than Monte Somma, and with a crater possibly exceeding 1,300 feet in diameter; this cone was almost snow white from the deposit of sublimates. Many deaths, Professor de Lorenzo states, were due to asphyxia, but the collapse of roofs weighted with dust was a source of much danger, as was the case at Pompeii in A.D. 79. The lava streams surrounded trees, many of which still stood in the hot lava with their leaves and blossoms apparently uninjured. The sea level during April 7 and 8 was lowered six inches near Pozzuoli, and as much as twelve inches near Portici, and had not returned to its former level on April 13. The maximum activity coincided almost exactly with full

moon, and at the time the volcanoes of the Phlegrean Fields and of the islands remained in their normal condition. Professor de Lorenzo believes that this eruption of Vesuvius is greater than any of those recorded in history with two exceptions—those of A.D. 79, the historic eruption which destroyed Pompeii and Herculaneum, and of 1631, when Torre del Greco was overwhelmed and 4,000 persons perished.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY has received two anonymous gifts amounting to \$325,000 toward the cost of its building to be erected on a site adjacent to Columbia University.

ALBION COLLEGE is now building a new biological laboratory, 45 to 60 feet, four stories high, which is expected to be completed in time for the opening of the college year in September. Mr. Andrew Carnegie has pledged \$20,000 to the endowment fund of the college on condition that \$80,000 additional be raised for the purpose. Mr. Carnegie has also given Kenyon College \$25,000 to aid poor students.

A NEW scholarship of \$5,000 has been given to Barnard College, Columbia University, by Mrs. George W. Collord in memory of her brother, George W. Smith.

THE council of New York University has decided to buy the Schwab property, of about thirty acres, adjoining the campus on the south.

LADY JEBB has given Cambridge University a fund amounting to upwards of £3,500 in memory of the late Sir Richard Jebb. The income of the fund is to be paid to Lady Jebb during her lifetime, and afterwards to be devoted to such object, related to classical or other literary studies, as the university may select.

ACCORDING to the New York *Evening Post* a project is well under way for the establishment of a university in British Columbia. Lieutenant-Governor Dunsmuir offered to endow a department of mineralogy, metallurgy and mining to the extent of \$125,000, with subsequent annual subscriptions for its sup-

port, upon condition that a similar amount be contributed by other Victorians. Mayor Morley says he has obtained donations within the last fortnight which will bring the sum up to the quarter-million mark. The city will also be asked for an endowment of \$250,000. In addition, Lord Strathcona has offered to give a site in the Hudson Bay park land, at Cadboro Bay, comprising some twenty acres, but a short distance outside the corporation boundaries.

THERE have been regularly enrolled during the past year in the three schools of engineering of Purdue University 1,236 students, and the prospect is that for a time, at least, the number will steadily increase each year. In anticipation of such a result, and to better provide for those already enrolled, the facilities for engineering work are now being greatly increased. A new building to be devoted entirely to the School of Civil Engineering is approaching completion and will be furnished ready for occupancy by the beginning of the next school year. An addition to the Electrical Laboratory, now under construction, will supply a new lecture room and extensive additions to the laboratory floor space of this department.

A NEW course in pedagogy will be established at Swarthmore College next year. The work will be in charge of Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, professor of pedagogy, of the University of Pennsylvania, Professor Edward B. Rawson, principal of the Friends' Seminary, of New York City, and Dr. Bird T. Baldwin, professor of psychology at the West Chester State Normal School.

Nature says: "The report of the committee of the school of geography for 1905 shows that the school now holds a strong position in the university, and is doing valuable work in encouraging the study of geography and surveying, and in providing special courses of geographical lectures suited to the requirements of the different final honor schools. Both the lectures and practical instruction were well attended throughout the year, although there were only a few candidates for the diploma. This year, in addition to the

ordinary work during term, a special course lasting three weeks, specially suited to those who are engaged in teaching, is being arranged for August. The instruction will be both practical and theoretical, and there ought to be no lack of support for so useful an innovation."

THE following appointments are announced at Harvard University: L. J. Johnson, professor of civil engineering; Albert Sauveur, professor of metallurgy and metallography; James L. Love, assistant professor of mathematics; J. L. Morse, assistant professor of pediatrics; George G. Sears, assistant professor of clinical medicine; E. E. Southard, assistant professor of neuropathology, and J. K. Whittemore, assistant professor of mathematics.

DR. EDWARD L. STEVENSON, professor of history at Rutgers College, has been appointed lecturer on historical geography at Columbia University.

AT Williams College Dr. James Graham has been promoted to an associate professorship of mathematics. Mr. Elmer Shepard, instructor in mathematics, is granted leave of absence for next year.

DR. CHARLES H. RICHARDSON, formerly of Dartmouth College and now carrying on research work at the Johns Hopkins University, will give courses in geology at the summer school of Syracuse University.

MR. S. P. HAYES, fellow in psychology at Cornell University, has been appointed to take charge of the psychological laboratory of Mount Holyoke College, in place of Dr. Kate Gordon, who has accepted a position in Teachers College, Columbia University, for next year.

DR. S. A. MITCHELL has been promoted to an instructorship in astronomy at Columbia University.

ACCORDING to the daily papers, Miss Mary E. Byrd, professor of astronomy at Smith College and head of the observatory, has resigned because of conscientious scruples regarding the acceptance of certain gifts by the college.