

THE foreign papers state that the reporter of the inter-ministerial committee recently appointed by M. Barthou, minister of public works, to examine the various proposals for making a shorter route to Italy and to Central Europe has concluded in favor of the piercing of Mont Blanc. The report of the committee will now be discussed by the government, which will eventually propose a bill to parliament.

THE Goldsmith's Company has contributed the sum of 1,000*l.* to the research fund of the Chemical Society, London.

A GRANT of £1,000 has been made by the Mercers' Company to the Imperial Institute for scientific research in regard to the economic products of British Colonies and Protectorates.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

AT the recent session of the legislature \$25,000 a year was added to the appropriation for maintenance of the University of North Carolina and \$25,000 a year for building and repairs. The annual appropriation for support is now \$70,000.

THE Alabama state legislature has recently passed a bill, since signed by Governor Comer, appropriating \$400,000 for buildings at the University of Alabama (at the rate of \$100,000 annually during this and the next three years), and \$25,000 a year towards maintenance. The latter is a continuing appropriation. This is the first time in the university's seventy-five years' history that the state has made a distinct appropriation for the regular work of the institution.

IN the state of West Virginia the new tax laws have yielded less revenue than the state has had formerly. The legislative appropriations for educational institutions have consequently been kept down to the level of previous years and have been further greatly reduced by the governor's veto. The state university, in spite of its recent rapid growth, receives considerably less than two years ago. To meet expenses the board of regents has been compelled to institute a system of tuition in the professional schools. The fund for

salaries in the medical school was cut out by the governor and no way has yet been found for making good the deficit.

AT the semi-annual meeting of the board of trustees of Princeton University on March 15, gifts amounting to more than \$75,000 were announced. Among the gifts was one of \$10,000 from Mr. Morris K. Jesup to increase the endowment of the Morris K. Jesup fund. Through the generosity of alumni the Carpenter building, situated on Nassau Street, has been purchased for the university.

AT a recent meeting of the board of trustees of Carroll College it was announced that Mr. Andrew Carnegie had offered to give the last \$25,000 of \$100,000 towards increasing the endowment. It was reported that \$75,000 had been pledged conditional, however, on raising a total of \$175,000. It is expected that the full amount of \$175,000 will be raised by June, 1908.

THE Massachusetts Institute of Technology has received a further anonymous gift of \$5,000 for the support of its Sanitary Research and Sewage Experiment Station.

DR. EDWARD CHARLES JEFFREY has been promoted to a professorship of plant pathology at Harvard University.

REGINALD ALDWORTH DALY, head geologist of the Canadian internal boundary commission, and formerly instructor in Harvard University, has been appointed professor of physical geology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

DR. A. D. COLE, professor of physics at the Ohio State University, has accepted a call to Vassar College, to succeed Professor Cooley who retires at the close of the academic year.

WILLIAM D. ENNIS has been appointed to the chair of mechanical engineering at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

DR. JAMES MARTIN BEATTIE, senior assistant to the professor of pathology, University of Edinburgh, has been elected by the council to the chair of pathology, in the place of Dr. Cobbett. Dr. Cobbett resigned the chair on his appointment as lecturer on bacteriology at Cambridge.