

Fernandez de Castro, president of the Agrarian League of the island, and empowered to prepare a report and submit a draft of a law for the amelioration of agricultural conditions in Cuba.

CONSUL-GENERAL RICHARD GUENTHER, of Frankfort, says it is reported that a Hamburg joint stock company has purchased a large tract of land along the mouth of the Elbe at Cuxhaven, where power works are to be erected. The action of the ebb and flow of the tide is to be employed in generating electric energy to be used in factories about to be established. The works will also furnish electric power to the town of Cuxhaven and other towns in the vicinity. The daily capacity of the plant will reach 14,000 horse power.

THE French Administration des Postes et Télégraphes is, according to the Paris correspondent of the London *Times*, engaged in making some interesting experiments with a view to the improvement of telephone communication. On an underground cable between Lille and Roubaix a certain number of self-induction coils on the system of Professor Pupin, of Columbia University, have been intercalated. As was found to be the case in America, the results obtained have been excellent, and there is some talk of greatly increasing the use of these coils on a number of other telephone lines.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE will erect a \$50,000 building for Bates College for the study of science, providing a similar sum is raised to support the department.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY has received from the trustees under the will of Miss Harriet N. Lowell the sum of \$2,000, this being the first annual payment of a part of the income of her estate in accordance with a provision by which the money will be for surgical research. In addition to this immediate benefit, the university has the remainder of the estate, subject to the life tenancy above mentioned. The university has received from Mr. Francis Skinner \$2,500 as his final payment on account of his gift of \$5,000 for the purchase of books for the

Arnold Arboretum, in memory of his father, Francis Skinner, of the class of 1862.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY has received for the equipment of the Department of Mining and Metallurgy three gifts of \$2,500 each from estate of D. Willis James, Adolph Lewisohn and the Nichols Copper Company.

STEPS have been taken by the authorities of the University of Wisconsin to increase the practical value of the instruction in agriculture by establishing a full two-year course to include the maximum amount of scientific and practical work. The present four-year course in agriculture has been revised with view to introducing into the first two years a number of subjects bearing directly upon farming, instead of confining the first years of the course as heretofore to purely scientific work. Graduation from high school or equivalent preparation will be required for entrance to the new two-year course, as well as to the present four-year course. At least six months of practical farm experience will be required for the completion of either of these courses.

ACCORDING to a decree issued by the ministry of education, ceremonial matriculation is henceforth to be dispensed with in Austrian universities.

DR. ALBERT ROSS HILL has accepted the presidency of the University of Missouri to succeed President R. H. Jesse. Dr. Hill was dean of the College for Teachers at Missouri until last year when he accepted the deanship of the College of Arts and Sciences at Cornell University.

DR. E. O. LOVETT, professor of mathematics at Princeton University from 1900 to 1905 and since professor of astronomy, has resigned to accept the presidency of the institute established at Houston, Texas, by the late William M. Rice, with an endowment, which after long litigation is said still to amount to over \$2,000,000.

MR. A. T. STUART has been appointed superintendent of schools in Washington to succeed Dr. William E. Chancellor, who has been dismissed by the Board of Education. The main charge against Dr. Chancellor appears to have been lack of judgment and tact.