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CONTENTS

<i>Some Trends in Higher Education</i> : PROFESSOR GUIDO H. MARX	759
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	787
<i>University and Educational News</i>	790
<i>Discussion and Correspondence</i> :—	
<i>The Occurrence of the Killer Whale on the New Jersey Coast</i> : F. W. TRUE. <i>The Ptarmigan and the Sonnet</i> : H. L. SEAVER. <i>Johannsen's Determination of Rock-forming Minerals</i> : L. MCI. LUQUEER. <i>Family Records</i> : C. B. DAVENPORT	790
<i>Scientific Books</i> :—	
<i>Hann's Handbuch der Klimatologie</i> : PROFESSOR R. DEC. WARD. <i>Schuyler's Reservoirs for Irrigation</i> : F. W. HANNA	791
<i>Scientific Journals and Articles</i>	792
<i>The Epidermis of an Iguanodont Dinosaur</i> : PROFESSOR HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN	793
<i>Botanical Notes</i> :—	
<i>Short Notes</i> : PROFESSOR CHARLES E. BESSEY	795
<i>Special Articles</i> :—	
<i>A Fossil Gar-pike from Utah</i> : PROFESSOR T. D. A. COCKERELL. <i>The Nucleation of a Close Lecture Room</i> : LAURA C. BRANT ...	796
<i>Societies and Academiés</i> :—	
<i>The American Mathematical Society</i> : PROFESSOR F. N. COLE. <i>The Utah Academy of Sciences</i> : A. O. GARRETT. <i>The Anthropological Society of Washington</i> : JOHN R. SWANTON. <i>The New York Section of the American Chemical Society</i> : C. M. JOYCE. <i>The Torrey Botanical Club</i> : PERCY WILSON	797

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SOME TRENDS IN HIGHER EDUCATION¹

THE student of the higher educational system can not help becoming impressed by certain very pronounced phenomena. These grow most obvious if the graphical method is used for the expression of tabulated data, and that method has therefore been relied upon here to visualize the movements under discussion.

First among the phenomena, and bearing all the others in its train, is the remarkable growth and spread of interest in higher education, and the consequent tremendous increase in the number of those pursuing advanced studies and receiving higher training.

Chart No. 1 deals with the conditions in Germany as disclosed by a study of educational statistics compiled from official sources.² It is natural for us to look to Germany for significant educational movements and well-kept statistics. An examination of Curve B of the combined

¹The charts which form the basis of this paper are part of those which have been constructed by the writer for his use in studying certain movements bearing upon the problem of educational efficiency. Effort has been made to have the data as complete and accurate as the time at his disposal for this work would permit, although it is too much to hope that no minor errors or discrepancies have been overlooked.

For data furnished, other than those available in official publications, he wishes to make especial acknowledgment to Presidents Schurman, Van Hise, Wheeler and Jordan and their respective secretaries.

²Lexis's "Public Education in the German Empire"; Ascherson's "Kalender der deutschen Universitäten" and "Minerva."

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