

### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

AT The Ohio State University, J. A. Bow-nocker, professor of inorganic geology and curator of the museum since 1901 and state geologist since 1906, has been made head of the department of geology to succeed the late Charles S. Prosser. J. E. Carman, Ph.D. (Chicago), assistant professor, has been made professor of historical geology and curator of the museum, and Arthur Bevan, A.B. (Ohio Wesleyan), for the past two years a graduate student at Chicago, has been made instructor in geology.

HAROLD VEACH BOZELL, director of the school of electrical engineering of the University of Oklahoma, who during the past year has been on sabbatical leave studying in Yale University, has been appointed to a chair in the Sheffield Scientific School. Associate Professor Lester William Wallace Morrow, of the University of Oklahoma, has been promoted to succeed Professor Bozell, and T. G. Tappan, now of Cornell University, has been appointed to the position of associate professor of electrical engineering in the University of Oklahoma.

AT Oberlin College, Robert E. McEwen, Ph.D. (Columbia, '17), was recently appointed instructor in the department of zoology.

L. D. BATCHELOR has been appointed professor of plant breeding in the University of California, his work being at the citrus station of the graduate school of tropical agriculture.

DR. ERNEST M. R. MANKEY, of the University of Illinois, has been appointed head of a new division of plant physiology at the Delaware College.

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### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

#### THE USE OF PREHISTORIC CANADIAN ART FOR COMMERCIAL DESIGN

THE Archeological office of the Geological Survey, Department of Mines, Ottawa, is now prepared to show to Canadian manufacturers and their commercial artists a very complete series of several hundred examples of motives for decorative and symbolic designs and trade

marks, although it has no facilities for making designs. These motives are all from prehistoric Canadian art and handiwork. Such archeological material supplies not only the oldest human decorative material from Canada, but material unsurpassed in distinctiveness. The fossils, animals, flowers, leaves, fruits, etc., and especially the historic objects from Indians found only in Canada would no doubt supply other motives capable of use as the lotus blossom has supplied innumerable designs used throughout much of the world.

Mr. Joseph Keele, of the ceramic laboratory of the department, has used some of these shapes and motives in the modelling of part of the vases made to test Canadian clays. Many of these pottery products after serving their purpose were given to the Women's Canadian Club, who sold them for the benefit of the Red Cross. At the sale there was a greater call for the vases made after these Canadian motives than for any of the others. Eighteen manufacturers, representing six totally different industries, a museum and an art school have already applied for copies of these motives. This is over 20 per cent. of those informed of the opportunity and one firm has already sent two representatives from Toronto to Ottawa to look into the matter. They express themselves as surprised at the quantity and usefulness of the material and have already selected motives for their designers to use.

This seems to prove that there is a demand for motives or inspiration for new and characteristic Canadian designs and trade marks. This demand we may expect to grow at the close of the war, when Canada makes special efforts to stand on an even footing with other countries in producing manufactures recognized all over the world as individually and characteristically her own.

These motives may be used as they are or may be conventionalized or dissected or multiplied or developed in several of these ways. Designers may use them as inspiration for designs which may be applied to fronts of buildings, gargoyles, fountains, terra cotta, pottery, china, ornamental work, cast iron railings, stoves, carpets, rugs, linoleum, wall paper, stencils, dress fabrics, lace, embroidery, neck-