UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

At The Ohio State University, J. A. Bownocker, 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.

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-

ware, umbrella handles, jewelry, brooches, silverware, knife, fork and spoon handles, belt buckles, hat pins, book covers, tail pieces, toys souvenirs, trade marks and many other lines of work.

It is hoped to publish drawings of these motives as soon as the drawings can be made. Each drawing will be labeled as to what the specimen is, where it was found, where it is now, its size, material, and, to a certain extent, with the region in which the type of motive is found. The area in which each motive is found is given, so, for instance, that a British Columbian manufacturer may know which motives are appropriate for British Columbian manufactures rather than use one appropriate only for Manitoba. Some of these areas extend into the United States as does the area of the maple leaf and the beaver; others are confined to parts of Canada. Reference is made to photographs, lantern slides, and published illustrations wherever such exist. The actual specimens are scattered in this museum, the Provincial Museum at Toronto, Provincial Museum at Victoria, the Museum of the Natural History Society, St. John, New Brunswick, the Provincial Museum at Halifax, the American Museum of Natural History, New York, the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania, the British Museum and museums in San Francisco, Florence, Italy, Berlin, Germany and elsewhere.

If this publication is issued it will no doubt be sent to every large library, every member of Parliament, every newspaper in Canada, probably, to all Canadian manufactures using designs and certainly to all such manufacturers who express the need for it.

As it may be months before all the drawings can be made the archeological office will make every effort to give free of all expense any practical aid that it can in the use of these motives. These data are at the service of any manufacturer who desires to call at the office. Possibly photographs can be made of a few of the motives for such manufacturers as specify just what they would like to have photographed. A typewritten list of the books containing pictures of some of the specimens will be supplied on request.

The office will do all in its power to hasten this work and will be obliged to manufacturers if they will call or write to offer suggestions and express their needs. Such an expression will very likely be of service to the office in securing the improvement and hasty publication of the album of motives.

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METHODS AND MATERIALS FOR THE PREPARATION OF WALL CHARTS

VARIOUS grades of paper, with or without cloth-backing, have been used extensively for many years in making charts to be used in lecture rooms. However, unbacked paper does not wear well, and cloth-backed paper is heavy and stiff, besides being expensive.

Shade cloth is cheaper, lighter, and much more durable than any chart paper. One variety known as Holland Shade Cloth is used by several workers in my acquaintance. A large chart of this cloth may be folded into a small package or rolled into a close roll convenient for carrying in a suit case to a meeting in some distant city. When unpacked it requires no heavy sticks to make it hang smoothly.

This cloth furnishes a fine surface for line drawings. The air brush may be used on it in shading, and wax crayons may be employed. However, when large areas of wash shading with a brush are involved, there is a good deal of puckering of the cloth. For this reason, I have made trials of other fabrics in the past three years, and I have found that so-called Peerless Cambric Shade Cloth, Ivory White, is excellent for large wash drawings. It does not pucker noticeably, and it has a good drawing surface. There is no trouble with "drying lines" in applying washes. This cloth is a little heavier and stiffer than Holland cloth, and it can not be packed so compactly without forming creases. I have recently been informed that the puckering may be avoided by mixing equal parts of 80 per cent. alcohol and the ink solution employed.

I have not found it practicable to erase ink