

unpacked in the laboratories of the American Museum. The work has been supervised by Assistant Curator N. C. Nelson, under the immediate direction of Mr. Earl H. Morris, also of the American Museum.

The seventy thousand specimens already recovered from the Aztec Ruin constituted one of the most complete collections representative of a prehistoric North American culture which have thus far been obtained. Trained preparators are working with the material, and in the near future a representative selection will be placed on exhibit in the Museum's Southwest Hall.

One of the most important phases of the explorations at Aztec is the repair and preservation of the ruin. As fast as the walls are uncovered, masons replace the stones which have disintegrated, and strengthen the portions of the structure which threatened to collapse. The intention is to make of the ruin a permanent monument to the aborigines of the Southwest rivalling in importance the Mesa Verde National Park.

#### THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND THE MCKAY BEQUEST

PRESIDENT RICHARD C. MACLAURIN in his annual report to the corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in referring to the recent decree of the Supreme Court with reference to the agreement between the Institute and Harvard University says that this agreement marked an epoch in the history of educational progress in this country. The end sought was to build up an educational machine more useful to the community and to the nation than anything that could be maintained by either the institute or the university, acting independently. Dr. MacLaurin writes:

The plan adopted by the two corporations nearly three years ago has in the meanwhile been put to the actual test of experience and has met that test well. Most, if not all, of the difficulties that were anticipated by some have either not presented themselves at all or have been easily overcome. The educational power both of the institute and the university has been greatly strengthened and the cause of science that is applicable to the service of man greatly promoted by this combination

of forces. . . . Unfortunately, however, the funds that the university has at its disposal for the promotion of the great science of engineering are almost wholly dependent on the income from the Gordon McKay Endowment, and the Supreme Court has decreed that this income can not be applied in the manner indicated by the agreement. . . .

It remains to be seen whether another plan can be drawn up that is equally or nearly equally, workable and effective as an educational instrument and that accords with the view of the court regarding Mr. McKay's intentions. We should be false to our educational trust if we did not give this matter due consideration and earnestly seek a satisfactory way out. If intimate cooperation between these two institutions was demanded by the exigencies of the situation before the war, it is still more urgently demanded now. With the serious problems that this nation must face during the war and the equally serious problems that must be dealt with in the period of reconstruction thereafter, needless duplication of effort and needless dissipation of energy would be in a high degree reprehensible. . . .

As far as the institute is concerned in the near future the abandonment of this agreement would be much less serious in its financial aspects than seems generally to be supposed. This arises from the fact that the actual amount of income available from the Gordon McKay Endowment has been greatly exaggerated in certain quarters. According to the testimony before the court, all that the university has available at present is the income from less than two and one quarter millions. Under the agreement Harvard does not turn any of this income over to the institute, but appropriates a portion of it for the maintenance of courses leading to Harvard degrees, these courses being conducted at the institute. The amount thus appropriated since the agreement went into operation has been \$100,000 annually, the major part of this having been employed in paying the salaries of the university's professors and instructors. The whole amount is less than one tenth of the annual expenditure of the institute. It must not be supposed, therefore, that the institute will be crippled financially if the agreement with the university is abandoned.

#### THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

THE American Philosophical Society will hold its annual general meeting at Philadelphia on April 18, 19 and 20. Dr. William B.