

tions much as in 1914, although crop reports and similar data have been withheld by the Central Powers.

The immediate result of the war upon the institute has been on the whole to increase and stimulate its activities. The need for accurate statistical data regarding the world's food supply has never been so urgent. Information as to improved farm methods and economic measures has been eagerly sought for and with more prospect than ever before of its practical utilization. As regards technical material, particular efforts have been made to render available data as to means of diminishing the impoverishment of the soil, overcoming the shortage of fertilizers and labor, and increasing the use of farm machinery. A special function has been the answering of inquiries regarding agriculture in countries whose own agricultural and statistical departments have been disorganized by the war. It is announced that these various efforts of the institute have met with unusual appreciation from the governing authorities of many nations.

The officers of the institute are also looking forward quite optimistically to the future of the institution after the war. They believe that the return of peace will bring with it vast agricultural problems of international significance, and that during the reconstruction period the institute will have a specially important function to perform. There will be a great demand for accurate information along statistical, economic and technical lines, much of it international in its scope, and for the collection and dissemination of which a central clearing-house, such as this, will have unique possibilities. The institute is already making plans for service in these directions, and more specifically in such projects as the control of locusts, the improvement of the economic status of the farmer, the establishment and development of small holdings, maritime transportation of farm products, the unification of methods for agricultural statistics, farm accounting, control of seed adulteration and concentrated feeding stuffs, and the development of rural sociology.

Despite the unexpectedly difficult problems it has encountered, the institute thus enters upon the second decade of its operations with its organization virtually intact, its publications and other lines of work going on with little interruption, and an ambitious program being formulated for the future.

THE MUSEUM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

THE University Museum has entered upon an extension of its educational features by the addition of four women to its staff for the purpose of assisting visitors. There will also be an information desk near the entrance door for the accommodation of all comers. Every day, including Sunday, there will be present a professional artist to assist students, professional or designers, who may come to the museum to seek inspiration from its many art and ethnological treasures. A new curator has been employed to assist visitors in examining the collections from Mesopotamia, Greece, Italy and Egypt. The curator of the Oriental Section and the curator of the American Section will be present at all times to assist those who desire to study these exhibits. While the University Museum has always laid stress on its educational features and it has been visited by artists and designers as well as by scholars and the public generally, the management believes the time has arrived when very special efforts should be put forth to make the museum a more integral factor in the commercial as well as the artistic and cultural life of the community. Its new assistants will devote themselves especially to this feature in the particular desire to aid those who are seeking new artistic designs. In explanation of its new work the University Museum makes the following statement:

It is realized everywhere that this war is to have a profound effect upon the artistic and cultural world. Not only has much of the accumulated artistic beauty of the world been destroyed, but many of the creators of art have lost their lives in the struggle. Reconstruction is not likely to be along the same lines as formerly, for it is certain that there will be new ideals and new inspiration growing out of this war in all countries.

Hitherto the United States has either imported artists or art, or else its people have followed rather slavishly the ideals of Europe. This is especially true in the matter of design as affecting fabrics, textiles, wallpapers, furniture and decoration generally. The University Museum believes that this no longer will be the case. Even the old world nations will branch out on new lines. It would seem as if the greatest nation on earth, that which is raising the greatest army and commercial navy in the world, that which is destined to give the deathblow to the nation which is the foe of all art, the nation which has exceeded all others in invention for the material comforts of mankind, assuredly it seems that such a nation has within itself the power of creative imagination to establish its own school of independent art.

All art harks back more or less to former achievements, but the genius of a nation as of an individual is shown by the original use made of such available material. The University Museum has within its walls collections which have cost millions of dollars and which are valuable for more than their mere objective beauty or cultural qualities. They cover the whole field of civilization from the earliest dawn to the present, and practically every tribe and nation as well as every field of artistic achievement.

It is the belief of the managers of the University Museum that in its rich and rare collections of the art of the past as well as of the primitive races still existing there will be found inspiration and stimulus to aid in developing a truly American art.

Without going into the larger aspects of the situation it can be said that this city which owes so much of its prosperity to manufacture of textiles, furniture, wall-papers and other decorative objects will have a wide field of opportunity before it when the war ends. The nation is building the greatest commercial fleet in the world which it announces is to be used for trade as soon as peace comes. To secure trade this nation and this city must provide the best and most beautiful of commodities or give way to other nations who will supply the demand.

There are thousands of objects in the University Museum ranging from the treasures of ancient Egypt, Crete, Persia, Greece, Italy and South America and the primitives of Oceanica from which inspiration can be drawn with excellent results. It is not presumed that there will be any lavish copying but in this wide range of objects there will be found designs or color schemes which will afford scope to the creative imagination of artists and designers.

WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL GROUP

Two years ago a plot of land which approximated fifteen acres in extent, known as the Ford Estate, was purchased as a site for the new buildings of the Medical Department of Western Reserve University and for a new Lakeside Hospital, for a babies' and for a maternity hospital. It was the plan to create a group of hospital buildings combined with the medical school to make an ideal teaching plant for the teaching of medicine. This tract is situated next to the literary departments of Western Reserve University and the Case School of Applied Science. Although the war has postponed the erection of any of these buildings, Lakeside Hospital lately received some noteworthy contributions and bequests which will materially hasten the building.

By the will of the late Colonel Oliver Payne, a large and generous gift of one million dollars came to Lakeside to be used at the discretion of the trustees. By the will of the late Mr. W. S. Tyler, Cleveland, a trustee of Lakeside, a bequest of two hundred thousand dollars came to Lakeside to be used at the discretion and endowment of a maternity ward on the new site. Mr. Samuel Mather, president of Lakeside, opened the new building fund of the hospital by a gift of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars. There is also a fund held by the trustees of Lakeside for the benefit of the children's and maternity wards amounting to something over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

By these gifts the realization of the plans for an ideal teaching group are brought nearer.

THE NEW YORK POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL

SEVEN members of the laboratory staff of the New York Post-graduate Medical School and Hospital are in government service. Ward J. MacNeal, M.D., Ph.D., professor of bacteriology and director of laboratories, is now a major in the Medical Corps and in charge of the Central Laboratory of the Medical Department, France. Richard M. Taylor, M.D., professor of pathology, now a captain in the Medical Corps, is likewise doing laboratory