

if the face is viewed in its proper plane it will be seen that the forehead is very receding, showing the cranial deformation that was considered beautiful and proper by the Maya. Probably the headdress was originally much larger and more ornate. The nature of the original fillet which is represented by a row of disks with central knobs is uncertain, but it may have been of jade, pyrite or shell. The form of the headdress suggests that it may originally have represented, in conventionalized art, the upper jaw of a serpent. Possibly the lower jaw was also represented below the chin. This motive of a human head framed in the mouth of a monstrous serpent is a very common one in Middle American art.

J. A. M.

*Mesopotamian  
Excavations*

THE twelfth season of our joint expedition, with the British Museum, to Ur has now begun. This will be a short campaign, principally devoted to completing certain unfinished tasks and to getting all in order, with the idea that with the close of the season, excavations at Ur will be brought to an end.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, it has been necessary to abandon for the present season our expedition to Tell Billa and Tepe Gawra. It is hoped that another year will see resumption of activities at these ancient north-Mesopotamian sites.

*Publications*

THIS, the first number of volume 5 of the *Bulletin*, is dated January instead of December, and the succeeding numbers will appear at two-month intervals, thus bringing all numbers of the volume within one calendar year and eliminating the long period from June to October, when, heretofore, no *Bulletin* has appeared.

The Museum has for free distribution to members only a few copies of the *Illustrated Souvenir* of the Exhibition of Persian Art which was held in London in 1931. This book contains a brief

introduction and a hundred pages of plates, five of them in color. The book may be obtained at the Museum, or it will be sent upon receipt of twenty cents in stamps to cover mailing costs.

A publication of much importance will appear about the first of the year: it is *Luristan Bronzes in the University Museum*, by Dr. Leon Legrain, curator of the Museum's Babylonian Section. Dr. Legrain's monograph consists of a short history of the Luristan bronzes, a complete descriptive catalogue of all the pieces in the Museum's collection, and twenty-five large collotype plates fully illustrating the collection.

## THE MUSEUM CALENDAR

### January and February

#### *The Charles C. Harrison Foundation Lectures*

Saturday afternoons at 3 o'clock in the auditorium:

- January 13 The Head-Takers of Formosa—Carl von Hoffman  
January 20 How America Is Becoming Indianized—William B. Newell  
January 27 Republics of the Clouds—Ecuador and Bolivia—  
James C. Sawders  
February 3 Devil's Island the Exploring Surinam—  
Charles Wellington Furlong  
February 10 New Horizons in Persian Art—Arthur Upham Pope  
February 17 My Six Years with the Polar Eskimo—Donald B. MacMillan  
February 24 Excavating in the Crimea—Eugene Golomshtok

#### *Museum Seminars—as arranged.*

#### *Junior Members' Entertainments—*

Saturday mornings at 11 o'clock:

- January 20 Rolling Thunder  
February 24 Chinese Shadow Puppets

#### *Junior Members' Story Hours for Younger Children—*

Saturday mornings at 11 o'clock

- January 6th, 13th, 27th; February 3rd, 10th, 17th

#### *Members of the Junior Studio*

will meet in the Studio at 9.30 on Saturday mornings as arranged.