

pottery. An early Islamic mosque and a Buwaihid-Seljuk tomb tower are among the principal architectural remains so far investigated.

The closing weeks of the season brought forth a flood of beautiful Early and Middle Islamic objects—pottery, glass, various kinds of ornaments, and coins; and, thanks to the variety of the pottery, it will now be possible for the expedition staff to work up a chronology of the Islamic pottery of north Persia.

ASSYRIAN EXPEDITION

A BRIEF informal report just received from Mr. Bache at Tepe Gawra announces an interesting find, in an undisturbed mud-brick tomb, of two obsidian vessels of an unusual type: a bowl with a spout, which had been broken off and was missing, and a jar from which the spout had been broken in antiquity and then cleverly repaired before the time of the burial. Holes and notches had been made, bitumen used as an adhesive, and string employed to strengthen the repair. In the same tomb were a great quantity of beads and several other objects. Progress of the work in general on the mound will be reported in a subsequent issue of the *Bulletin*.

PREHISTORIC MAN IN THE SOUTHWEST

MR. EDGAR B. HOWARD continued last summer the search for early man in southwestern United States which he had been carrying on during the past several years. This year his efforts to unravel the problem connected with the people who apparently lived in the region of present day New Mexico during early post-glacial times were sponsored jointly by the University Museum, the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, and the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Although the work during the past summer was largely of a geological nature, part of the time was spent in an unfinished excavation of a cave near the Guadalupe Mountains from which several infant cradle-burials were removed.

PIEDRAS NEGRAS EXPEDITION

THE Museum's fourth expedition to Piedras Negras, Guatemala, was in the field for three months last spring. Excavations were confined to test trenching in three mounds, with results of considerable value in reconstructing the architectural history of the city. Studies of several mounds as found, without excavation, proved highly informative and resulted, among other things, in the identification of a new type of palace. Indeed, during the season the expedition identified four types of buildings previously unknown at Piedras Negras, and of these three included features heretofore unknown in the Maya area: the wooden-roofed portico, the roof combining stone vaulting and flat beam-supported concrete roof, and the altar niche specially ventilated to carry off the smoke of the altar fire.

A two weeks trip to the famous neighboring city of Yaxchilan provided a large amount of architectural data on the buildings there. A very interesting site, previously unknown to science, was visited on the return journey, and named El Cayo II.