

had a special liking for jade. His fine collection of Chinese antiquities in jade and other media was bequeathed to the British and Fitzwilliam Museums. Numerous jade carvings are among Sir Charles Hardinge's collection of 2,539 small objects made of more than a hundred different materials, the whole affording striking evidence as to Chinese beliefs, customs and handicrafts. Also of ethnological value is the Chinese section in the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum. It contains, besides drugs and acupuncture instruments, very diverse exhibits, including many amulets. The student will find special satisfaction in the Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, because here are weapons, tools, currency and pottery from the earliest times, all arranged in chronological sequence. Finally, a word is due concerning the inscribed bone

and tortoise-shell fragments found near An-yang at the end of last century. They put back the limits of authentic history and tell us of Chinese civilization more than three thousand years ago. In all, some 2,820 of these fragments belong to three collections: in the Royal Scottish and British Museums and in the ownership of Mr. L. C. Hopkins, *doyen* of the few Western students of archaic Chinese script.

To sum up: there are public and private collections in Britain rich in objects with æsthetic appeal, but poor in those not classed as 'art' which throw equal light on the history of Chinese civilization. Except in the aforesaid Cambridge Museum, small effort seems to have been made to trace evolutionary sequence in the ordinary things of life. Our collections are much scattered and duplicated; we need a central Chinese Museum.

NEWS and VIEWS

Visit of Indian Men of Science

It is now expected that the distinguished Indian scientific men who will shortly visit Great Britain will arrive about the second week of October. They expect to stay in England for about seven weeks, during which time they will visit important scientific laboratories and industrial, medical and agricultural research institutions in and near London in the Midlands and north of England and elsewhere in the United Kingdom; they will also discuss modern scientific progress with such bodies as the Royal Society, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Medical Research Council, the Agricultural Research Council and the Radio Board. This visit is a sequel to the visit to India last winter of Prof. A. V. Hill, secretary of the Royal Society. It was then suggested that Indian scientific men should be given an opportunity of coming to the United Kingdom and of establishing closer relations between the many new scientific organizations in India and corresponding organizations here. The proposal was warmly welcomed by H.M. Government and by the Government of India. They will be the guests of His Majesty's Government while they are in Great Britain.

The party will probably consist of the following: Dr. Nazir Ahmad, director of the Cotton Technological Laboratory, Matunga, Bombay; Colonel S. L. Bhatia, deputy director-general of the Indian Medical Service; Sir Shanti S. Bhatnagar, director of scientific and industrial research, India; Sir Jnan Chandra Ghosh, director of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and president of the National Institute of Sciences of India; Prof. S. K. Mitra, of the University College of Science, Calcutta, chairman of the Radio Committee of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research; Prof. J. N. Mukherjee, professor of chemistry, University of Calcutta; Prof. Megh Nad Saha, of the University College of Science, Calcutta. Colonel Bhatia's departure from India is expected to be delayed, and he will not join the party until later.

Professorship of Concrete Technology at the Imperial College, London

A RECENT benefaction from the Cement Makers' Federation has enabled the Imperial College, with the approval of the University of London, to institute in its City and Guilds College a new chair of concrete

technology. It may not be possible to appoint a professor until after the termination of war with Germany. The chair will be instituted in the first instance for ten years, and will be attached to the existing Department of Civil Engineering. The duties of the professor will be to provide advanced instruction in the principles and technological application of reinforced concrete, to conduct research in his subject, and to consult with industry regarding the practical experience which it will give to students in training. In order to establish the necessary contact with industry, an advisory committee is contemplated, with appropriate representation of interested bodies, which will report to the governing body of the College. At the end of the ten-year period it will review the working of the scheme and advise as to its continuation or termination. A noteworthy feature of the scheme, which might well be followed as a model in future planning of training for technology, is an arrangement, sponsored by a number of building and civil engineering contractors, whereby bursaries will be made available to students devoting one or two years (after a preliminary study of the basic sciences) to intensive study of concrete technology. It has been agreed that industry looks for graduates broadly trained in the fundamental sciences, but with specialized knowledge superimposed; and that its willingness to provide such bursaries is the best assurance that can be given of its intention to absorb men who have thus committed themselves to a specialized course of training.

Prof. Frank Allen

Prof. Frank Allen has just retired from the position of head of the Department of Physics, of the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada, after forty years of service. He is a native of Canterbury, New Brunswick, born on February 6, 1874, and is thus one of the great army of educationists given by the Maritime Provinces of Canada to the West. After graduation from the provincial University of New Brunswick in 1900, he spent four years at Cornell, at a time when the United States physicists were just beginning to realize the importance of their calling. Allen received his Ph.D. degree at Cornell and in the autumn of 1904 entered on his work in Manitoba. He has made an important contribution to physics in Canada. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1909 and served as a member of the National