

thing. Throughout it is done with the utmost simplicity, showing neither the decadent elaboration of some of the Assyrian things nor the grotesqueness of the more primitive Sumerian. It is conventionalized and yet is not a convention, life-like yet not studied.

“As you know I have worked this year with a small crew, one hundred thirty-five as an average. The cost for labor has not been great, yet by the end of the season I expect we shall have uncovered a larger area than we have ever done before. I hope at least to work through March and possibly into April.”

*4. Proposed Work in
Czechoslovakia*

THE University Museum and the Peabody Museum of Cambridge, Massachusetts, are sending out their Second Joint Archæological Expedition to central Europe early in June. Fourteen weeks will be devoted to excavations in the several provinces of Czechoslovakia. Headed by V. J. Fewkes, the staff will consist of six men, equally representing the two institutions. The purpose of the Expedition is threefold: further excavations will be carried out in three of the nineteen sites explored last summer, in order to pursue definite problems and to seek their solution; all efforts will be made to secure material from culture levels not discovered during the last season; reconnaissance work will be carried on in Yugoslavia in order to make preliminary preparations for systematic exploration in the Balkan states next year.

The work in Czechoslovakia will be done in cooperation with the State Archæological Institute in Prague,

whose buildings will be used for the Expedition's headquarters. Permission for excavations in Yugoslavia has been granted by the Minister of the Interior and the details are now being arranged.

Members of the University Museum who may be travelling in central Europe this summer are cordially invited to visit the excavations of the Expedition. Should any wish to avail themselves of this opportunity they may obtain information from the Museum or from the State Archæological Institute in Prague.

*5. Some Ancient
Chinese Jades*

THROUGH the generosity of Mr. Eldridge Johnson the Museum has recently purchased twelve rare Chinese jades of early period. Ten of these are ritual or ceremonial objects. Several are of forms so ancient that their original meaning and use is now but imperfectly understood.

The two pieces illustrated on Plate V are perhaps those of most general interest. The large disk is a pi, symbol and image of the Deity Heaven; the tall cylindrical object is a ts'ung, symbol of the Deity Earth. Whatever may have been the primitive origin of these symbols they had come by Chou times (1122-255 B.C.) to represent geometric conceptions of these two principal deities. The author of the Chou Ritual explains that the pi was "round like Heaven" and that the ts'ung was, like Earth, "round inside and square outside." The Emperor used jades of these types in the Imperial sacrifices to Heaven and Earth. But they were also