

interesting. A vault which has already yielded a number of objects has been only partially cleared and gives every prospect of containing much more of interest.

*New
Expeditions*

WITH the coming of spring the Museum's activities in the field largely center on this continent rather than in the East and Near East. The Eldridge R. Johnson Expedition, under the leadership of Dr. Mason, has already resumed operations at Piedras Negras, Guatemala. Mr. Howard has departed to continue his work in the Southwest, and Miss de Laguna will shortly leave for Alaska. It has been decided to resume excavations at Damghan, Persia, and we may confidently expect further important finds at this site. It is not possible at this time to announce definite plans for any other projects, and reports from all those mentioned will have to be held for publication in the autumn.

*Excavations at
Piedras Negras*

DR. MASON'S first report from Piedras Negras comes just as we go to press and contains news of considerable interest. Although the site was found to be entirely overgrown with soft high vegetation, which had sprung up in the period of less than a year since the expedition departed last June, no time was lost in making progress which augurs well for a successful season.

Work has been resumed upon the pyramid where last year was found the notable stone lintel which is now in the Museum, and upon another pyramid where another

lintel was found last year. Two buried temples at successive lower levels have been found under the latter pyramid, but the nature of these is still to be determined.

A find of particular importance in view of its relation with the lintel now in the Museum has been made on the so-called 'Acropolis.' At the rear of a court which is at a higher level than the West Plaza, from which it is separated by a structure, is a long and fine megalithic stairway at the top of which is a colonnaded structure with a high back wall against the hill and pilasters in front. At the back formerly stood an altar or throne with a back-piece of beautifully carved stone. The resemblance to the throne with its background which is depicted on the lintel in the Museum is so close that there can be practically no doubt that the ceremony there portrayed was an actual ceremony performed at Piedras Negras upon a very similar throne if not upon this very one.

Publications

IN anticipation of the opening of the galleries of African art and ethnology in the early autumn, a major portion of this number of the *Bulletin* is devoted to some of the outstanding features of the African collections.

The next number of the *Museum Journal* is now in preparation and should be ready for publication by June first. It will be devoted entirely to a report on the Museum's participation in the Matto Grosso Expedition to Brazil last year.