

ANCIENT BONES TOUGHENED BY NEW PROCESS

The warning "handle with care" may no longer be so necessary in museums and laboratories where valuable bones of dinosaurs, mastodons, and our own departed ancestors are preserved and studied, according to Prof. E. C. Case, of the University of Michigan, who has found that by use of a varnish made from Bakelite fragile material may be preserved in a practically indestructible medium. The usual means of making such specimens somewhat more durable has been to treat them with shellac.

As an illustration of the success of the new method, Dr. Case says: "A human skull was selected that the writer could have crushed in his hands. After treatment it was dropped upon a table top, cautiously at first, and finally from a height of eighteen inches upon its vertex without injury."

COLORED FLOOD LIGHTING MAKES "DREAM PICTURES"

Hundreds of color combinations, converting prosaic buildings into "dream pictures" are possible with a system of flood lighting developed by local engineers, and described as follows in the "Journal of Electricity".

"Imagine a cream-tinted terra cotta and pressed brick facade, 90 ft. high, all bathed in a soft magenta or ruby light seeming to come from nowhere yet painting every brick and ornate projection with varying tints and shades of this dominant warm color. Then picture a mauve or purple band, with flecks of emerald green, reflected from a Corinthian colonnade extending another 30 ft. above the base of ruby tints; and above, a narrow band of emerald broken by a row of 21 flaming urns, the flame-colored light constantly in motion. Only a Maxfield Parrish could paint such a picture; only in the wonderful childhood dreams of fairyland could such a scene be brought before the mind."

A six foot long bull snake recently climbed a 45 foot pole, wrapped himself around an electric transmission line and interrupted service between El Reno and Enid, Okla.

Power from Niagara Falls was recently used to flood the Falls themselves with colored lights at night from twenty-four big searchlights.

A new British Embassy, built of reinforced concrete and especially designed to withstand earthquakes, is to be erected in Tokyo, Japan.

A species of cockroaches infests the huts of Laplanders and sometimes entirely devours the stores of dried fish put away for winter consumption.
