

erford of Cambridge University, England, said.

Prof. Werner Heisenberg, German physicist, said: "The Bohr Institute is the world center of modern atomic research."

Prof. Max Planck of Germany wrote: "Bohr's research has given a new turn to scientific evolution."

Prof. Georg von Hevesy, German discoverer of the chemical element hafnium, commended Bohr's warm personality and declared him to be a "historical phenomenon" as a thinker.

The co-discoverer of artificial radioactivity, Mme. Irene Curie-Joliot, also daughter of the isolators of radium, wrote from Paris: "Bohr is one of the great masters of theoretical physics."

Science News Letter, October 19, 1935

ART

Delicate Art Works Copied By New Four-Cent Process

BEAUTIFUL sculptured art works, that never before could be reproduced for fear of damaging the delicate surface, can be copied safely by an ingenious and inexpensive new process.

The process, devised by Lamont Moore of the Newark Museum staff, has been successfully tried first in making a cast of a famous ancient Indian sculpture, the head of a Mayan corn god belonging to Peabody Museum, Cambridge, Mass.

Knowing that beautiful colors painted on the corn god's image would be ruined if ever oil or grease were applied, as is necessary in making an ordinary plaster of Paris mould, Mr. Moore determined to find a way to produce the copy that his museum wanted for exhibit.

His process, evolved after many experiments, is to stretch several layers of ordinary paper handkerchiefs over the surface to be copied. Over this soft layer, which protects and fits to the sculptured contours, he criss-crosses narrow gummed paper until three layers of the gummed strips have been built up over the features, forming a perfect mask. The mask is lifted from the sculpture, and greased, shellacked, and plastered in preparation for use as a mould.

Cost of making such a mould, Mr. Moore finds, is only about four cents, and some 15 reproductions can be cast from it. An experienced worker can make a mould by this process in eight hours or less.

Science News Letter, October 19, 1935



MAKING A MASK

Lamont Moore, of the Newark Museum, demonstrates his method of copying delicate art works in the inexpensive medium of tissue paper.

MEDICINE

New Blood Test Reveals Approach of Lead Poisoning

A TEST which shows the approach of lead poisoning before the disease has actually developed was reported by Drs. Carey P. McCord and F. R. Holden and Jan Johnston of the Industrial Health Conservancy Laboratories, Cincinnati, to the American Public Health Association.

The test is particularly valuable in protecting industrial workers who are exposed to lead in the course of their work. By means of the test, which is called the basophilic aggregation test, the physician can tell whether or not lead poisoning is the early prospective lot of the individual being examined.

"In this test," Dr. McCord explained, "counts are made of embryonic blood cells which in normal persons rarely exceed one per cent. of the total number of red cells in the blood, but which in the case of lead poisoning may amount to much higher percentages, such as 4, 6 or 10 per cent."

An extensive lead poisoning epidemic which took place in the automobile industry in 1934 and 1935 provided an

opportunity for evaluating the new diagnostic procedure. In this epidemic 8,000 tests were made with results more than 95 per cent. accurate.

The epidemic resulted from the use of metallic lead in automobile body production, it was explained.

Lead in the form of dust and fumes was inhaled by exposed workers, with the result that many hundreds were injured by this industrial intoxication. The total number of persons either affected with clinical lead poisoning or who evinced evidences of lead absorption is not known for the entire industry, but it has been set approximately at 4,000.

This epidemic of lead poisoning has led to many changes in manufacturing processes in order to obviate repetition of this occupational disease outbreak. Already in many automobile plants control appliances and practices have been installed sufficient to make unlikely any large number of poisoning cases during the approaching automobile manufacturing season.

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