

However, until the lower level sherds, pipes, and other materials are adequately described, the full significance of this important excavation must still remain in doubt.

WILLIAM DUNCAN STRONG  
Bureau of American Ethnology

#### STOPPERS OR MODELING TOOLS

In *AMERICAN ANTIQUITY*, Vol. 2, p. 137, Mr. T. J. Dillingham asks for opinions as to use of the toadstool-shaped pottery implements described and pictured by W. H. Holmes in his work on *Aboriginal Pottery of Eastern United States*.<sup>153</sup>

Identical toadstool-shaped objects of pottery are used by the Cocopa, Diegueño, and Kiliwa Indians of Lower California as "anvils" when "paddling" the plastic walls of pottery vessels in the course of manufacture. Potters of Oudh and the Northwest Provinces of India use similarly shaped pottery anvils,<sup>154</sup> as do also the Ao Naga of Assam.<sup>155</sup>

In view of these modern examples of the use of toadstool-shaped pottery objects, it seems likely that those from Mississippi Valley sites were similarly used, as Dr. Holmes suggested.

E. W. GIFFORD  
Department of Anthropology  
University of California

#### ORGANIZED AMATEUR STUDENTS

In an article published a few months ago in *AMERICAN ANTIQUITY*, attention was called to the large numbers of amateur archaeologists who, because of a lack of organization or knowledge, were engaged in a wholesale destruction of archaeological material in the New England area. The article also suggested a plan for standardizing the mapping of sites and numbering the implements recovered from them. Since that time great progress has been made toward organizing these collectors and in standardizing field methods and cataloging in this area. Apparently the purpose of my contentions is about to be justified by definite action in the right direction.

The amateur archaeologists at Attleboro and vicinity have formed an association which they have called "The Wampanoag Archaeological Society." The objects of this society are best stated by quoting from their By-Laws: "to foster and promote the study of archaeology in this area and the collection and preservation of Indian artifacts for historical and archaeological purposes."

<sup>153</sup> B A E-R 20: 35-36, 1903.

<sup>154</sup> H. R. C. Dobbs, *The Pottery and Glass Industries of the North-West Provinces and Oudh*, *Jour. Indian Art*, 7: 4, pl. 58, 1897.

<sup>155</sup> J. P. Mills, *The Ao Nagas* (London, Macmillan and Co., Ltd.), 95, 1926.