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EDITORIALS

THE EDWARD ORTON, JR., CERAMIC FOUNDATION

On February 10, 1932, General Edward Orton, Jr., founder of collegiate ceramic education in America and organizer of the American Ceramic Society, passed from life unto immortality. Notable while living for his achievements in many activities, the working monuments which he left will continue to add to his renown. Collegiate ceramic schools, the American Ceramic Society, the Ohio Geological Survey, the Ohio State Engineering Experiment Station, the National Defense Act, the Reserve Officers Association, the Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts, Camp Mary Orton for under-developed children, and the Orton Geological Library are some of these working monuments. Mt. Orton stands in Estes Park as mute testimony of the wide range of General Orton's activities.

One other working monument he left to ceramic posterity, The Edward Orton, Jr., Ceramic Foundation. The purposes of the Foundation are two: (1) to continue the production of Standard Pyrometric Cones of maximum dependability as a means of measuring ceramic ware heat treatment, and (2) to prosecute researches of importance to the ceramic arts and sciences. The broad-gage manner in which he planned for this Ceramic Foundation was set forth in the memorial editorial in the March, 1932, issue of *The Bulletin*.

The obtaining and holding of the highest possible standard in quality of pyrometric cones produced and the finding of compositions, shapes, and methods of processing them so that they will most accurately measure ceramic-ware heat treatment were his first considerations. General ceramic researches were to him of secondary importance.

In his own words:

There are two purposes for which this trust is created. The first and principal purpose is to provide a stable and dependable organization for continuing the manufacture and sale of Standard Pyrometric Cones of the highest

quality and most exact accuracy that is commercially feasible at a reasonable price. The second and subsidiary purpose of this trust is to provide a Research Organization for the prosecution of studies and researches for overcoming technical and manufacturing difficulties, and for thus advancing the ceramic arts and industries of the United States. . . .

I entered the manufacture and sale of pyrometric cones with the purpose of performing a definite and needed service to the ceramic industries: (1) by enabling them to better control the firing of their products, which is the weakest point of the manufacturing process; (2) by facilitating the freer exchange of exact information concerning the firing process between ceramic manufacturers; and (3) thus inducing a better and more coöperative relationship among them, and thus making greater scientific and industrial progress probable. In this enterprise, while manufacturing profit is essential to permit its continuance, it has, from the first, been my purpose to make financial profit incidental to the principal idea of furnishing to ceramic manufacturers a mode of controlling or regulating the firing process of their ware with the highest attainable degree of dependability at the lowest reasonable cost. Having been successful in obtaining the confidence of manufacturers of ceramic products in Standard Pyrometric Cones, it is my desire to assure myself that the manufacturing establishment which I have built up shall continue to fulfill this same useful purpose, upon the same high plane, and with the same ideals of public service after my death.

General Orton passed away while he was financing these several monumental projects including the new Standard Pyrometric Cone Laboratory. It has taken his administrators and the Probate Court two years to work out the financing of the several projects which General Orton started. The Court instructed Mrs. Orton and her co-administrator to continue the Standard Pyrometric Cone Company under their own direction until final arrangements for these several projects were made. On January 1, 1934, by court authorization, the Standard Pyrometric Cone Company was transferred to the Trustees of the Edward Orton Ceramic Foundation to administer as prescribed in General Orton's will.

in so-called cultural subjects including economics, but not at the expense of science subjects. (3) We have increased the total credits in mathematics, physics, and chemistry. (4) We believe mathematics should be taught by mathematics specialists whether engineers or not, and our students are so taught. (5) We believe chemistry should be taught by chemistry specialists and our students are so taught. We are unalterably opposed to instructors in such departments as ceramics teaching anything but their own specialty and have successfully fought other departments here that attempt to do it.

(6) We do not look on "Occurrence and Properties of Clays" or as we call it, "Ceramic Materials," because we try to broaden the field, as a geology subject. Geologists, even of the Ries type, can not teach this course because I want to make it fundamental to all other courses in this department. Properly taught one can lay the foundation for all other ceramic courses. We devote only three credits to it and it follows and ties in with the first course in geology.

One other comment. My idea of the function of a col-

lege agrees with that of Roberts. My one aim is to teach students to think and to be self-reliant. I work at it from the time they enter as freshmen. It's a tough job with some, probably the majority, simply because I contact them so little during their four years here and there are too many instructors who teach on the "memory" theory who constantly tear down as I build up.

I have consistently attempted to stay clear of so-called practical courses and from teaching "practice." I do very often attempt to show the application of theory to practice. Like you, I believe the teaching of "practical" courses lowers college instruction to a trade-school level. My experience has shown me, however, that you must teach a certain amount of "applied science" in order to make the pure science of value to an engineer.

May 29, 1934.

A. F. GREAVES-WALKER¹

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NECROLOGY

ARTHUR D. FORST

Founder and, for forty years, president of the Robertson Art Tile Co., Trenton, N. J., Arthur D. Forst passed away on April 2. Mr. Forst received his early education in Trenton, and at the age of eleven went to New York to attend the Columbia Grammar School. He later entered Princeton University and was graduated with the class of 1888. In 1890 he became associated with the Robertson Art Tile Co. and later became its president. For some years he was president of the New Jersey State Hospital, Trenton, a director of the Y.M.C.A., a member of the board of managers of McKinley Hospital, and treasurer of the State Board of Park Commissioners.

NOTES AND NEWS

EDWARD ORTON, JR., CERAMIC FOUNDATION INAUGURATES RESEARCH

On January 1, 1934, the Standard Pyrometric Cone Co. and the Orton Memorial Laboratories were turned over to the Board of Trustees of the Edward Orton, Jr., Ceramic Foundation, but on request of the Probate Court, management was not assumed until May 1.

The Board of Trustees intends to maintain the high quality product associated with the Orton name for thirty-five years and to improve the product in keeping with recent theory and practice. On May 1 the Trustees appointed G. A. Bole, ceramic research professor of Ohio State University, as manager and research director, with Myril C. Shaw as his assistant.

With the available facilities and personnel of Ohio State University, the trustees have inaugurated studies with a view to improving the pyrometric cones and maintaining their quality.

The personnel of the Board of Trustees and the appointment of Dr. Bole and Dr. Shaw guarantee a thorough search for all possible improvements in the quality of the Orton Standard Pyrometric Cones.

George W. Rightmire, President of Ohio State University, is president of the Board. Other members are E. A. Hitchcock, Dean of the College of Engineering and Director of the Engineering Experiment Station of Ohio State University; Arthur S. Watts, Chairman of the Department of Ceramic Engineering of Ohio State Uni-