

expected it to be "a specially interesting story"

It will be an unwritten one. Mourned by his many friends and associates, and, although only 29 years old, respected throughout the scientific world for his achievements and scholarship, Dr. C. Leroy Meisinger's name, with that of his Army pilot, Lieut. James T. Neeley, will go down on that long roll of scientists who died martyrs to human progress.

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READING REFERENCE - Talman, C.F. Meteorology, the Science of the Atmosphere. New York, P. F. Collier Sons' Co., 1922.

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#### EPIDEMIC OF ACCIDENTS REPLACES THOSE OF DISEASE

Accidental injuries from mechanical devices are rapidly assuming the importance as menaces to life that formerly was taken by epidemic diseases, according to Dr. J. Howard Beard of Health Service headquarters of the University of Illinois in an address before the American Medical Association, Dr. Beard said:

"An epidemic of injury has succeeded the epidemics of infection. The suicide rate is about that of the whooping cough death rate. About as many people were killed in automobiles at railroad crossings last year as died of scarlet fever in 1920. Fatalities resulting from auto accidents in 1923 are about the same as those from diphtheria and scarlet fever combined. Accidental deaths in industry are approximately equal to the sum of the deaths due to measles, whooping cough and diphtheria. There are 700,000 persons injured yearly in their occupations, whose disability causes a loss from work of not less than four weeks. Industrial poisoning produces its great quota of disease and death, and in some of the more sanitary cities, the exhaust gas from automobiles causes more deaths than the typhoid bacillus.

"Intelligent public sentiment, fostered among employers, employees, and chauffeurs, as well as in institutions of higher learning, is the only way of coping with the accident disease."

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READING REFERENCE - Fisher, Boyd. Mental Causes of Accidents. Boston and New York, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1922

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#### LOS ANGELES ANCIENT MAN YOUNGER THAN GLACIAL TIMES

By Watson Davis

Columbus discovered America. But thousands of years before he arrived, red men approaching this continent from the west rather than the east, emigrated here and made this land their home.

Were these very early Indians who crossed Bering Strait the first human

beings to tread the Western Continent? Or does the geologic history of man in America extend further back than thousands of years into a time of glaciers and ice sheets, a period known to geologists as the Pleistocene?

Workmen were digging a sewer near Los Angeles a few months ago. Deep down in untouched earth, 20 feet below the surface, they found human skeletons, six in number. Nothing is more interesting and vital to the students of the past of the human race and this earth than such stories of human tragedy written in bones and dirt. There is always the hope that a strange tale will be told, some new scientific facts revealed.

Archaeologists and historians have been interested in the problem of the antiquity of man in California for the past sixty years, ever since human remains were reported to be found in river gravels in the 60's. Naturally the human bones unearthed in Los Angeles aroused intense interest. Dr. William Alanson Bryan of the Los Angeles Museum of History, Science and Art, Dr. John C. Merriam, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, and Prof. Chester Stock of the University of California made an intensive study of the skeletons which some believed might require new anthropological history, even to the extent that man inhabited America during the glacial age. Anthropologists wondered whether the skulls would be found to be similar to the Neanderthal remains from the Pleistocene deposits of Europe. There were hopes that genuinely ancient man, whose ages could be measured in ten and perhaps hundreds of thousands of years, had been found.

Careful scientific study has not fulfilled these hopes. Prof. Stock has reported to the National Academy of Sciences that the Los Angeles skeletons are of modern type, probably not unlike those of relatively modern Indians. In spite of the depths of deposits in which the bones were found, the geologists declare that no evidence has yet been found indicating that these formations date back to the Pleistocene geological period immediately preceding the present and represented in part by the glacial epochs. Probably a few thousand years, but not necessarily tens of thousands of years, have passed since those skeletons were covered with flesh.

Lack of evidence that man was inhabiting America during the glacial age when he was widely distributed over the Old World, does not mean that the human race is an upstart so far as America is concerned. Time is required to account for the development of divergence in physical type among American Indians. It took many years for their various cultures and languages to become separated and differentiated. The human record in the rocks points to the presence of man in America sufficiently long for him to evolve these differences, although the evidence found up to this time still shows man to be a relatively recent arrival in the New World

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READING REFERENCE - Osborn, Henry Fairfield. Men of the Old Stone Age.  
New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1921.  
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A refrigeration plant big enough for a whole city of 200,000 people is maintained by a manufacturer of motion-picture films, which require constant conditions of temperature and moisture.  
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