

## Prehistoric Doughnuts

Three doughnut-like cakes, with the familiar hole in the center, have been found in Oklahoma caves among relics of Basket Maker Indians. The cakes represent food of Indians who inhabited the Southwest in prehistoric times, before the Pueblos came into the Southwest and before the art of making pottery was discovered.

Dr. E. B. Renaud, who has just completed a two months' expedition to New Mexico and Oklahoma for the Colorado Museum of Natural History, made the discoveries in caves east of Kenton. This is the first time that traces of the old Basket Makers have been found so far east as Oklahoma, he stated.

Relics found in the caves include sandals, bone beads, implements of bone, wood, and stone. There are also seeds, bones of animals eaten by the Basket Makers, and small corn-cobs, bags of shelled corn, and a bag made of prairie dog skin containing corn on the cob. Fragments of the baskets, which served the Basket Maker Indians as cooking vessels, water jars, and all sorts of containers, were also found.

Eighty-five miles west, in lava caves of New Mexico, Dr. Renaud unearthed similar objects and also a skeleton of a woman resembling the Basket Maker type.

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## War on "White Ants"

Paris green, time-honored foe of potato beetles and other insects pests, promises victory in the war which California is waging against termites, sometimes called "white ants", destroyers of millions of dollars of wood-built structures annually. The effectiveness of the Paris green dust depends first on the cleanliness of the termites. They are forever licking themselves clean, and thus swallow the deadly powder.

After they have died or are very notably weakened, a second termite habit comes into play. The insects are cannibals through thrift; they eat up their deceased relatives. It does not matter if the dead termite met its end through poison; it gets eaten anyway. Thus the same dose of Paris green may do away with several termites in succession.

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More than 70 per cent. of the inhabitants of the United States have British blood in their veins.

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## Plans for Disaster Board

Plans for a State Disaster Board, to have charge of disaster relief whenever necessary, were laid before the public health engineers of the American Public Health Association by E. L. Filby, Chief Engineer of the Florida State Board of Health and Chairman of the Association's committee on disaster relief.

"The need for State Health Departments to be prepared for disaster duties is becoming more apparent every year," said Mr. Filby. "The public health problems that follow in the wake of every storm and flood are often staggering and unless health departments are prepared to cope with the situation serious difficulties may be expected. The midwestern tornado of 1925, the Mississippi flood of 1927 and Florida's hurricanes of 1926 and 1928 have demonstrated in the states affected the need for disaster preparedness by the State Health Departments."

Under the plan drawn up by Mr. Filby's committee, a fund of at least \$50,000 should be made available through legislative appropriations and

put at the disposal of the governor for emergency disaster relief. The disasters for which it may be used are to be designated by law.

In addition, a State Disaster Board should be ready, the Board consisting of the Governor as chairman, the Adjutant General directing the National Guard or Militia, the State Comptroller, the State Highway Commissioner, the State Health Officer, the Public Service Commissioner or utility representative, the State Commissioner of Welfare, and a representative of the American National Red Cross, appointed by Washington Headquarters.

These officers should prepare themselves in advance by familiarizing themselves with sources of supplies and personnel that may be called on in an emergency. Cooperation between the Board and other agencies should be fostered before disaster strikes. The particular kinds of disaster to which the state is subject should be studied and relief plans made accordingly.

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