family through several generations, he had an excellent opportunity to emphasize the way in which the descendents of one family differ from those of other families. Instead of this, the Forsytes rather typify a class. The story of the Forsytes, therefore, is not the story of a particular individualized family, but rather the story of the conflict between the solid, property-owing middle class and the changing social ideas and standards of the modern younger generation.

But it is not necessary to ignore the laws of heredity in order to produce an interesting fiction family, Dr. Key points out. As a demonstration, she points to Margaret Kennedy's "The Fool of the Family." In this book, too, the point of the story hinges on the heredity of the rather odd family portrayed. But Dr. Key says that Margaret Kennedy's appeal to heredity, unlike that of the others cited, is entirely in line with the latest conclusions in the field.

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DENTRISTY

Poor Teeth Are Price Paid By Man For a Better Brain

WHILE BRAINS GROW, teeth rest, and man pays with weak and crooked teeth for a better brain.

Dr. G. Elliot Smith, professor of anatomy of King's College, explained these ideas to the International Orthodontic Congress at London recently. The first seven years of a child's life, he said, are marked by a phenomenal brain growth, and there is a pause in his dental development. For another fifteen years or so he is sluggish in his dental affairs. That is because he is busy adjusting his complicated cerebral apparatus to life's needs. Undoubtedly, he said, the delay in teeth and jaw development is due to these changes.

But while brains are responsible for ugly teeth in man, they have given him a beautiful chin, his distinguishing mark in the animal kingdom. Dr. Smith believes that the part of the jaw that does not bear teeth develops while the rest is held up. The salient chin, he says, is an index of "mental" development. But he does not say that persons with the most promising chins or the most outstanding teeth have the greatest brains.

Certain common beliefs as to the evolution of the human face are not justified, Dr. Smith said. The smallness or absence of the third molar is no sign that man will lose that tooth entirely in the near future. Peking Man, the latest ancient ancestor of human kind discovered, has his third molar small; he may be a million years old. Apes and monkeys, in fact all other primates, have smaller third molars.

Dental troubles such as the crowding and displacing of teeth are not evidence of evolutionary changes going on, Dr. Smith said. Apart from changes resulting from racial mixtures, nothing radical is taking place with human jaws or teeth. People had outgrowing teeth and other troubles 50 centuries ago.

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ASTRONOMY

Ryves' Comet Will be Visible After Sunset in Western Sky

RYVES' comet, discovered witnin the past few days by an English amateur astronomer living in Spain, should be visible low in the western evening sky, just after sunset for the next few days. L. E. Cunningham, of the Harvard College Observatory, has just made a preliminary computation of its orbit. This indicates that the comet was at perihelion, or closest to the sun, on August 25.

According to the computations, which are admitted to be somewhat uncertain, the comet should now be in the constellation of Leo, and of the minus 3.4 magnitude. This is almost as brilliant as Venus at its brighest, and brighter than any other permanent astronomical object except the sun and moon. It should be about seven degrees from the sun, and may even be visible in broad daylight. At noon, when the sun is directly south, it should be seen to the left of and a little below the sun, if that body's direct glare is obscured behind the edge of a building, or in some similar way.

Incidentally, this position is only about three degrees away from the position of Nagata's comet when it was discovered by a Japanese amateur astronomer in California a few weeks ago. But then the sun was farther away.

Mr. Cunningham's computations of the orbit are based on observations of Ryves' comet made on August 14, by Dr. George Van Biesbroeck, of the Yerkes Observatory in Wisconsin, and on August 15 and 17 by Dr. E. C. Bower, of the Lick Observatory, in California. Three separate positions of a comet are necessary to determine its orbit. However, if the three are very close together, as was the case with those used by Mr. Cunningham, any slight error is greatly magnified. Only by using three observations spread over a wide arc of the comet's orbit can really precise computations be made. For this reason, Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory, in announcing Mr. Cunningham's results, states that further observations of the comet are urgently needed.

Though the present computations are very uncertain, they should permit the comet to be kept in view.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

Old Terraces in Arizona Tell of Indian Farming

TERRACES made by native farmers who tried to plant their crops on the lower slopes of a mountain centuries ago have been discovered in Arizona by the Van Bergen-Los Angeles Museum Expedition. The expedition is making an archaeological survey of a portion of the area drained by the Black and White Rivers in eastern central Arizona. In the party are Dr. Charles Van Bergen, Arthur Woodward, and Ben Wetherill.

To make their mountain-side cornfields, the prehistoric Indian farmers selected the places where old mountain streams had cut gulleys into the slopes, and using the banked earth brought down by the seasonal waters, they formed ridges, bordered with long rows of stones set on edge.

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