

ARCHAEOLOGY

Valuable Objects Found in Cemetery of Unknown Race

Mortuary Equipment and Remains of People Dead 4000 Years Yielded by Great Necropolis Unearthed in Persia

A GREAT cemetery containing the remains and the treasured possessions of an unknown, ancient people has been unearthed in Persia. The announcement was made by Horace H. F. Jayne, director of the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania, upon receipt of a cable from the joint Persian expedition of the Museum and the Pennsylvania Museum of Art.

The cemetery was discovered by the expedition working at Tepe Hissar, a few miles from Damghan, Peria. Scores of graves have been opened, revealing the remains of a people some 4,000 years old. Their racial origin is unknown, but it is possible that they form a connecting link between India and Mesopotamia.

The report, made by Dr. Erich Schmidt, field director of the expedition, describes the cemetery as it appears after weeks of careful excavation:

"It is an awe-inspiring sight to look upon the remains of a hundred people, dead ages ago, exposed with their mortuary equipment to the sunlight, in one great necropolis. Thus we found them in the main mound at Tepe Hissar. Altogether about two hundred graves of the last Tepe Hissar people have been unearthed to date, and one can imagine the wealth of information and the beautiful objects derived from them.

"There were remains of little children with their miniature dishes, as well as those of men and women, with cups, bowls, and pitchers of the attractive gray ware of the period. Many were found with strings of beads still attached to their necks, and bracelets, anklets and finger rings of copper clinging to their bones.

"One of the most interesting discoveries was a little girl's grave. There had been buried with her lapis lazuli beads, gold ear pendants, onyx beads, and some small figurines carved in the shape of cow and sheep. Some plain silver pins and six little silver cups completed the child's equipment for the other world.

"In one of the graves were found the remains of a warrior, dead almost 4,000 years. Beside him were his weapons—

a bident, a dagger, a battle-ax and a helmet. A silver pitcher, covered with purplish gray patina that is acquired with age, lay close to the head, and the left hand held two gold-coated rings and a string of lapis lazuli and onyx beads.

"The results of the first few months' work are of an intensely interesting and important nature. The dead of Tepe Hissar and their mortuary equipment illuminate an entirely new and fascinating phase of human culture in this region of the world."

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ENGINEERING

Engineers Would Build Homes Out of Steel

AMERICANS would be building their homes—even the vine-covered bungalows for two—out of steel instead of the now conventional wood, brick, stone and plaster, if the engineers who met at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., had their way.

And beautiful, convenient, economical houses they would be, according to

a description given by T. J. Foster of New York. Mr. Foster has studied the methods of construction of experimental private residences built from time to time in which steel has been substituted for more common building materials.

In an address before the American Institute of Steel Construction he described the building that he concludes from his study will make the most desirable steel private residence.

Mr. Foster's plan is not merely an adaptation of skyscraper methods of construction to the private home. Following research to perfect details, he would manufacture sections of walls and of floors, and pieces of the frame for the house in a central shop.

Instead of seeing his home rise gradually, step by step, the owner of a steel residence would watch the structure swung boldly and rapidly into place with a stiff leg derrick. Mr. Foster estimates that a home built in this fashion would cost less than an equivalent one as erected now.

The basic wall material suggested is a steel slab, backed with an insulating material, to be made in the shop and fastened to the steel frame at the site. It is claimed that such a slab has greater insulating value than ordinary materials, making the house warm in winter and cool in summer. It will not shrink, harbor vermin or burn, Mr. Foster declared. For the roof, the same type of slab would be used.

Even the chimney would be built in the shop in three lengths and set in place with a derrick.

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DIGGERS AT WORK

Excavating the ancient cemetery. Two hundred of the graves have been uncovered.