



THE MARYS AT THE TOMB OF CHRIST

Yale University

This scene, with many others from the Bible, was painted on a chapel wall. Prof. Rostovtzeff has said of it: "The most interesting and chief scene of the painted decoration shows the story of the resurrection: the majestic front of the grave with two shining stars above it and the procession of the myrrhophores, the three Marys with their companions moving slowly and solemnly towards the grave with lighted torches and bowls full of myrrh in their hands. It is . . . painted with a gorgeous display of colors."

## ARCHAEOLOGY

## Oldest Known Christian Art Being Exhibited at Yale

THE EARLIEST Christian art known in the world has been brought to this country and is being exhibited to the public at Yale University, New Haven.

The paintings, showing Christ healing the sick, the Resurrection, and other Bible subjects, were discovered in Syria last year by scientists from Yale University and the French Academy of Inscriptions.

While they were excavating ruins of the old city of Dura on the Euphrates River, they unearthed a little Christian chapel of about 200 A. D. To their delighted amazement, they found its walls covered with religious frescoes. Here were Bible characters depicted just as the people thought of them within two hundred years after Christ.

Describing the finds, Prof. Rostovtzeff, Yale archaeologist, said that one of Dura's peculiar characteristics was its religious art. Dura had a mixed population, and they worshiped a variety of gods. Yet throughout the city and its temples was the same deep religious fervor expressed artistically by rich wall paintings and sculptures.

Until last year, archaeologists had found temples of Greek and Roman

gods, Arabian, Babylonian, Persian. As the city existed until 256 A.D., archaeologists expected to find some signs of Christian faith in so religious a city, but not a trace of Christianity did they observe until they struck the chapel.

"It was a small chapel in a house, perhaps that of a bishop," said Prof. Rostovtzeff. "Several such chapels of the third and fourth centuries A.D. have been discovered previously, but all were found in ruins and not one had its original decoration preserved. In fact, no church or chapel decorated with paintings or mosaics earlier than the fifth century is known to students of Christian art, except for some funerary chapels in the catacombs at Rome. Great, therefore, was the joy of the excavators when they came upon the Dura chapel still adorned with a set of wall paintings illustrating familiar episodes from the Old and New Testaments.

"These Christian frescoes now at Yale are unique. They contribute very much to our knowledge of early Christian art and iconography and show us that in the early third century A.D. Christian art was already well developed—vigorous, impressive, original."

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## PSYCHOLOGY

## Parents' Behavior Foretells Results of Treatment

WHEN A CHILD is brought to a child guidance clinic for treatment, the psychiatrist can tell from the behavior of the parents at the first few interviews how the treatment will result, Dr. Helen Leland Witmer, of the Smith College School of Social Work, told members of the American Orthopsychiatric Association.

If the parents are not interested in the child, perhaps resent him and wish they did not have to bother with him at all, treatment is apt to be unsuccessful, Dr. Witmer found. Failure may also be expected in cases where there is discord between the parents, with one of them lavishing on the child the affection that would normally be given the other parent.

The treatment will be successful when the child comes from a harmonious home, even if the parents have either over-indulged him or discriminated against him.

Dr. Witmer believes that from the parents' attitude toward the child in the early interviews, the psychiatrist not only can learn whether or not his treatment will succeed, but can decide to stop treatment, if it seems doomed to failure, or can try to devise new methods of treatment.

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## PHYSICS

## X-Ray Tube Gives Radiation Equal All Radium in World

X-RAYS as intense as all the radium in the world could produce and of a penetration and frequency equal to that of radium's gamma rays have been produced from a new porcelain insulated, grounded anode X-ray tube of new design described to the American Physical Society by Cyrus A. Poole of the Kelly-Koett Manufacturing Co., Covington, Ky. Its design is an outgrowth of the work done by Prof. C. C. Lauritsen at Pasadena, but embodies a transmission anode and is to be operated on direct current.

The new tube operates on 800,000 volts furnished by a system of cascaded electrical transformers and it is the first X-ray tube to operate on constant potential direct current at this high voltage.

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