

ARCHAEOLOGY

Wrinkled Old Woman Is Art From Peru's Indian Past

Vase Containing Her Jolly Face Is Example of Two New Cultures Found by Sons of Peruvian Vice President

By EMILY C. DAVIS

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THE FACE of an old woman, round and wrinkled, with toothless mouth and a button nose—this was the unexpected photograph that Senor don Rafael Larco Herrera, First Vice President of Peru, brought out to show me, on his visit here, when I asked: "Does a Vice President have time for archaeological discoveries, in Peru?"

It seems that a Vice President in Peru has no time to explore Incan or pre-Incan ruins, nor to work very much at the fascinating project of arranging one of the largest private collections of Indian pottery in all the Americas. At Sr. Larco's hacienda near Trujillo a special museum has been built to house the collections of Peruvian archaeology which his science-minded family has amassed and carefully preserves.

I asked how large the collection has grown, and Sr. Larco, thinking a minute, replied:

"There are about 20,000 exhibits at the hacienda, now. That is not merely Peruvian pottery, but includes fabrics and all the Indian arts."

A Vice President's sons, it seems, may find time to keep up the family reputation for making archaeological discoveries.

"My three sons," said Sr. Larco, "have found objects of two new cultures." And he pointed to the photograph of the old woman. For her wrinkled countenance adorns a pottery vase, which, he explained, is one of the discoveries in a new-found chapter of Peru's prehistoric past.

This Peruvian grandmother, who might remind you of Hiawatha's grandmother, if you envision a round-faced Nokomis, is a remarkable art work of Cupisnique Indian culture. This is the name of the place where the type of culture has come to light, on the coast of northern Peru. Some evidence of a distinctive, pre-Incan people not previously known, has been appearing at sites there

in the Chicama Valley, and archaeologists have given it several names. Now Sr. Larco's sons, directed by the eldest, Sr. Rafael Larco Hoyle, a former Cornell University student, have found at Cupisnique the first cemetery of these people, revealing their physical type and much more of their customs in life and death.

It is even becoming possible to place these long-forgotten Indians in time relationship to some other aborigines of Peru. For Cupisnique burials have been found in layers of earth beneath another type of Indian culture, termed Mochica, thus upholding the Larco's verdict that the Cupisnique people were early folks in the region.

Latest discovery is that an intermediate pattern of Indian culture has been identified between the old and the late. It is this intermediate pattern and the revelations of the Cupisnique cemetery that Sr. Larco would have dismissed in modest remark that his three sons have "found objects in two new cultures."

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PUBLIC HEALTH

Hookworm and Malaria Plague Southern States

By W. H. PICKETT, M.D.

Florida State Health Officer

WAGES are being lost, welfare clients increased and educational facilities wasted because certain diseases are allowed to exist even though we know how to prevent the particular disease in question. I have in mind specifically malaria and hookworm, which still exist to a profound extent in all of our Southeastern states, including Florida.

The obstacles confronted in the attempt to control these two diseases are those of (1) Ignorance (2) Indifference (3) Finance. The monetary phase of the problem is placed last because once the first two difficulties are overcome, experience has proved that money to finance the sanitation and engineering

aspects of control are usually forthcoming.

Malaria can be controlled by preventive measures such as elimination of anopheles mosquitoes, carrier of the disease, through the procedure of drainage, associated with the cooperative activity of private physicians in treatment of the sick. It is important for officials and the public generally to realize that any malaria control program must be a permanent and continuing one in which full provision is made for maintenance of the preventive measures instituted.

The simple procedure of adequate disposal of sewage or the wearing of shoes by the entire population will suffice to control hookworm infestation. The procedure is simple, the practical application appears most difficult.

The Rockefeller Foundation, Good Samaritan of the South, continues on in its good offices of assisting health boards in prevention of economic diseases and promotion of programs to improve general health conditions. Florida is grateful for the continued cooperation of the Rockefeller Foundation in the malaria control program as well as for the research works which are being conducted in various scientific fields.

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NUTRITION

Soy Beans to Help U. S. Make Milk Go Around

ATENTION of America's doctors is called to the prospect that soy beans by the ton will do defense duty, to help the United States make its milk supplies go around.

American soldiers are drinking more milk than in World War days, civilians drink more milk, dried and processed milk in increasing quantities goes to Britain, and casein from milk is wanted by industry for making plastics and for other processes, says an editorial in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (Nov. 1).

Declaring that it is important to secure adequate substitutes for industrial uses of milk by-products, the *Journal* points out soy beans as offering encouraging aid. Federal chemists have evolved methods of preparing high-grade protein from soy beans and plans are being made to increase bean production, as a casein substitute. It will take 10,000 tons of soy bean protein a year to meet casein shortages, which are increasing, says the *Journal*.

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