



Science News-Letter

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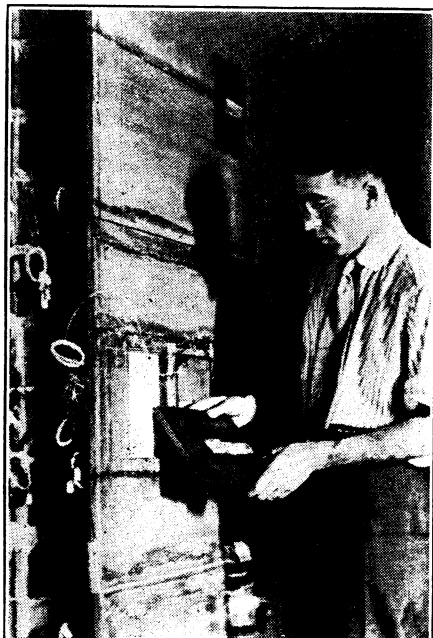
PSYCHOLOGY

Test 158 Pairs of Twins

The meaning of the phrase "as much alike as twins" has been tested so far as mentality goes on 158 pairs of twins in New York City. The tests were conducted at Columbia University by Gladys Tallman. The mental ratings of the twins were compared with the mentality of brothers and sisters whose ages were one to four years apart.

Twins are about twice as much alike mentally as are brothers and sisters of different ages, the tests showed. Boy-girl twins are not so much alike as girl twins or boy twins. And twins of the same sex that look alike are more nearly the same mentally than those that look distinctly different. The twins included 63 pairs who looked so much alike that they were almost indistinguishable.

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HEAT AND WALLS

J. L. Finck, of the U. S. Bureau of Standards at Washington tests a "conductimeter" a new apparatus for measuring the amount of heat that travels through walls, and determining whether the walls of a house help to heat the out of doors.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Prehistoric Man Found in East Africa

By E. N. FALLAIZE

Mr. Fallaize as secretary of the Royal Anthropological Institute, London, is in touch with the leading European research on man's past.

A discovery which may prove of the greatest importance in helping to solve the problems of the distribution and migrations of early man in Africa, is announced from Nairobi, Uganda.

L. S. Leakey, a member of the Cutler Expedition which is searching for the remains of dinosaurs in East Africa, has been specially detailed to investigate the archaeology and early history of man in Uganda. He has now found a complete human skeleton at Nakuru buried in the flexed position, with knees drawn up to the chin, at a depth of twelve feet. With the skeleton were over a hundred stone implements described as "Mesolithic," being mostly lunates (crescent shaped) and backed points of obsidian with a few bone points. The depth at which the skeleton was found and the character of the stone implements found with it would seem to indicate a very great antiquity, though how old it is it is not yet possible to say.

The skeleton is that of a six-foot man and is said to be "not negroid." The skull has a nose of medium width and the jaw is not thrust forward. In life this man, therefore, did not have the broad flat nose and the projecting jaw characteristic of the usual negro type.

This is not the first discovery relating to early man to be made in Uganda. Just before the war a skull was found which was thought to be of a very early age, and, indeed, in the view of some scientists it was thought it might even go back as far as the Old Stone Age, and possibly be contemporary with stone age men of Europe. Numerous discoveries of stone implements have also

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been made. Although it is not possible, owing to the difference in geological conditions, to say with certainty how these implements compare with those of the Palaeolithic Europe in actual dating in terms of years, in type the large chipped implements of rougher and heavier form, belonging clearly to the earliest phases of the Stone Age in Uganda, are similar to those of the early stages of the European Palaeolithic Age, and are to be compared with the early implements found in other parts of the world wherever evidences of the existence of the Stone Age have been found.

In connection with the present discovery, however, the most interesting implements which have been

(Just turn the Page)



CANNED FOOTPRINTS

Dr. Charles W. Gilmore, paleontologist of the National Museum, examines fossil footprints made in sand by an ancestor of the mighty dinosaurs. Dr. Gilmore found the sandstone slab 1,000 feet down from the top of the Grand Canyon. The footprint signature dates back 500,000,000 years, according to latest estimates on the earth's younger days.

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Prehistoric Man

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found are the series of pygmy implements discovered in Uganda by Mr. Wayland, the government geologist, which are of the same type as the lunates and backed points or small knives of stone found with the skeleton at Nakuru. The diminutive implements, most of them less than an inch long, are characteristically of a very definitely geometrical form, often triangular, and are very widely distributed all over the world. They have been found in India, the Sudan, North Africa, Australia, Central Asia, and, of course, Great Britain and most of the other countries of Europe, especially France. The culture to which they belong is called Azilian, from a site in France, Mas d'Azil, a rock shelter in which they were first found. In date they belong to the transitional period between the Old and New Stone Ages which, in Europe, falls perhaps somewhere between 9,000 and 7,000 B. C. It cannot be said whether the Azilian implements found outside Europe are all as old as this; probably they are not. But it is possible that further research in East Africa may show that we have here in this discovery a branch of the Azilian race migrating south at a date not much later than that when this culture flourished in Europe. It is hoped and expected that the Kenya Government will assist Mr. Leakey with a money grant to carry on his researches for which further help is urgently needed.

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Ostrich feather fans were used by Egyptian pharaohs and princesses.

A method of attaching a searchlight to the nose piece of a spectacle frame has been devised to relieve eye strain for dentists.

News-Letter Features

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CLASS STUDY HELPS

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