

Abandoned Scenes of Ancient History

Archaeology

The remains of ancient civilization are one of the features of Europe. This part of the Empire.

Italy—*Fiesole*: Ruins of the old Roman Empire today, just as 2,000 years ago. The forum excavations of the course of this 73-mile wall now in progress are real "news" of the past. *Naples*: Pompeii and Herculaneum nearby.

England—*Hadrian's Wall*: Most years ago. The forum excavations of the course of this 73-mile wall now in progress are real "news" of the past. *Naples*: Pompeii and Herculaneum nearby.

France—*Avignon* and nearby arches, and other celebrated examples: Gallo-Roman ruins of once places of the beauty of ancient Greece. *Old Corinth*: Recent excavations have added to the interest of this once wealthy city, revealing some of its treasures of sculpture, paintings, amphitheater and aqueduct. *Merida*: and fine architecture. *Epidaurus*: "The Rome of Spain," contains the most (Turn to next page)

Spain—*Seville*: At the suburb of Italica, birthplace of three Roman emperors, are the ruins of a Roman amphitheater and aqueduct. *Merida*: and fine architecture. *Epidaurus*: "The Rome of Spain," contains the most (Turn to next page)

Malta—Fine specimens of stone of ancient Britain. *Silchester*: a completely excavated Roman town. Greece—*Delphi*: All that is left of the shrine of the oracle, in its wild, "City of ruins and roses" with many impressive objects from the bronze and iron ages, and medieval ruins as well. *Athens*: Temples, stoas, arches, and other celebrated examples: Gallo-Roman ruins of once flourishing colonial cities. *Old Corinth*: Recent excavations have added to the interest of this once wealthy city, revealing some of its treasures of sculpture, paintings, amphitheater and aqueduct. *Merida*: and fine architecture. *Epidaurus*: "The Rome of Spain," contains the most (Turn to next page)

The Baedeker of Bugs

Entomology

Information from Dr. L. O. Howard, for many years chief of the Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Entomologists who go abroad this summer would do well to have their trip over before August, or to postpone it until early autumn; for most of Europe will be in America during that month, to attend the International Congress of Entomology at Ithaca, N. Y. It might well be a privilege worth waiting for, to attend this meeting and then to sail on the same ship with a few congenial transatlantic cronies in entomology.

Once ashore, there are plenty of places where the person interested in insects may find much to interest him—enough entomological shrines so that one might, if he wished, spend his whole summer on them, without seeing a single art gallery or cathedral or ruin.

From the point of view of the popular natural history of insects, perhaps the European entomological Mecca would be the home of J. Henri Fabre at *Serignan*, in the south of France. This has been made a national museum; it can be

reached by motor from *Arles* or *Avignon*.

A combination of popular and technical interest is offered by the new vivarium in the *Jardin des Plantes*, in *Paris*. Here, in the great garden that was the scene of the labors of many of France's most brilliant biologists, insects are kept in as nearly optimum surroundings as can be attained under a roof, and at the same time are made available for intimate observation by the visitor. Nor should the entomologist omit the Museum of Natural History, on the *Rue de Buffon*. And he who spends part of his summer in the blessed land of Brittany must by all means see the Oberthur collection at *Remmes*.

In *London* one goes, of course, to the British Museum of Natural History in any case; its collections are among the most notable in the world. At *Oxford* is the famous Hope collection, of which J. O. Westwood was once curator. One of the strangest of combinations—butterflies and fleas—dominates the great Rothschild Museum collections at *Tring*. (Turn to next page)

The Planetarium Miracle

Astronomy

To see the stars visible from the north or south pole, or any place between; to see the stars as they appeared to the ancient Egyptians; or, perhaps, to see the celestial phenomena of an entire year take place before your eyes in seven seconds—such is the miracle now possible to visitors in Germany.

The instrument that makes this possible, the planetarium, is, with the exception of the greatest astronomical telescopes, the most complicated, the most expensive, and also, undoubtedly, the most ingenious optical instrument ever constructed. Certainly it is the finest aid to the study of the stars that the world has ever seen.

Since it was first demonstrated a few years ago, planetariums have been installed in numerous German cities, and in Vienna, but it is the one in Berlin that the average American visitor will probably find most convenient. Situated in the *Zoologischer Garten*, just opposite the station of the *Stadtbahn*, it is easily reached. Even if the visitor can not understand German easily, or get an interpreter to accompany him, the planetarium should not be missed. The constellations are the same to all languages.

Among the other cities where the planetarium can (Turn to next page)

Zoological Gardens

Zoology

Information from Dr. W. M. Mann, director of the National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C.

Mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes and insects, strange to the country, can be found in most of the large cities of Europe. In many of the small cities there are creditable animal collections of great interest to the inhabitants.

Some of the interesting exhibits that would be well worth the scientific traveler's attention are:

LONDON: Specimen of Takin; wonderful new reptile house; Mappin Terraces, with mountain climbing animals; magnificent aquarium.

STELLINGEN near Hamburg: Open air panorama of African game animals.

JARDIN DES PLANTES, Paris: New vivarium with remarkable collection of insects and other invertebrates.

ROME: Five barless pits containing carnivores.

DUBLIN: Remarkable for the many lions bred in captivity.

EDINBURGH: Breeding penguins.

Science News-Letter, April 7, 1928