

TEACHERS COLLEGE **New X-Ray Method Reveals Sex**



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of injecting into the surroundings of the unborn baby a small amount of concentrated solution of strontium iodine. This practically harmless chemical has the property of being relatively opaque to the X-rays, and the fleshy parts of the baby as well as its tiny bones can be identified on the X-ray photograph. The effect of the injection fades after two or three hours and en-

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tirely disappears in a day. Dr. Menees calls the method "amniography."

More important to the physician and to the mother is the fact that amniography can be used to ascertain in doubtful cases whether a Cæsarian section will be necessary in order that the child may be safely born. It will probably be used much more frequently for this purpose than for ascertaining sex.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

ARCHAEOLOGY

Expedition Seeks Indians **Who Met Ponce de Leon**

DOWN the east coast of Florida, and into the depths of the Everglades, an expedition is about to seek prehistoric Indians. The region is "unknown Florida" from an archaeological point of view. The tribe that is sought is paradoxically famous in history and yet almost unknown scientifically.

The expedition, consisting of Matthew W. Stirling, chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology, and his brother, G. M. Stirling, of the Peabody Museum of Harvard, left Washington last week.

Parts of Florida are dotted over today by mounds left by the Calusa tribe, Mr. Stirling said. These Indians were the tribe that met Ponce de Leon and disappointed the Spaniard by giving him no aid in the quest for a fountain of youth. The Calusa themselves must have given an impression of physical vigor, for bones that have been found show that they were muscular and husky in type. The jaw bones of these Indians are even larger than Eskimo jaws, Mr. Stirling said.

Despite individual strength and tribal power, the Calusa were exterminated soon after white men came into Florida. The early explorers left practically no information about these unusual natives, and today archaeologists are beginning to re-discover them by unearthing their graves and their possessions.

The Stirling expedition will start from Cape Caneveral on the east coast of Florida and work southward, searching particularly for mounds that may represent villages mentioned by Spanish and French chroniclers. Historic sites here would be of great value to archae-

ology, Mr. Stirling said. At such places it is possible to trace the changes in Indian life that came by contact with the white man, and to sort out the real native factors.

Then, traveling into the Everglades, the archaeologists will try to locate old mounds that modern natives have reported. Excavating will be started at one or more promising sites here or on the coast, it is expected.

Some ethnologists have hoped that a remnant of the Calusa might have survived in the Everglades, mixing there with the Seminoles who came down to Florida about the eighteenth century, Mr. Stirling explained. But if that happened, he added, the Calusa stock would be absorbed by the Seminoles by now, so that the type could no longer be identified. Some Calusa words might have survived if the two tribal groups met, and language specialists may yet be the ones to find evidence that a remnant of the prehistoric tribe lived on in the heart of Florida when their land was "discovered."

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

G. Stanley Hall

Said:

"As for years, an almost passionate lover of childhood and a teacher of youth, the adolescent stage of life has long seemed to me one of the most fascinating of all themes." His description of

Adolescence

is

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