

nineteenth century by the Sicilian astronomer, Piazzi.

In designating the new asteroid by the letters Ba, the Italian discoverer is following the precedent set for labeling asteroids. When further observations prove it to be hitherto unknown, its provisional name 1930 Ba will be changed to a number and Prof. A. Lacchini, by virtue of being its discoverer, will give it a name. The earlier asteroids were given mythological names but as the number of asteroids discovered has increased these minor planets have been named for cities, colleges, and even steamships, pet dogs and favorite desserts. The number of the asteroid is assigned by the Recheninstitut at Berlin which is the international center for asteroid research.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1931

ARCHAEOLOGY

Hopkins Professor To Restore Greek "Pompeii"

WITH THE hope of making Olynthus the "Pompeii of Greece" archaeologically, Dr. David Robinson of the Johns Hopkins is leaving this country to spend the next three months excavating at the ancient Greek city.

Walls of houses along the streets of Olynthus are still standing to a height of five or six feet, Dr. Robinson said. His expedition will excavate some of these to show what the homes and the house furnishings of the people were like, as Pompeii shows life in a great city of ancient Italy. In its prime Olynthus had a population of some 65,000 people, Dr. Robinson estimated from his first explorations at the site in 1928.

People of this Greek city were not crowded into apartment-like, compact dwellings, he said. Houses with ten to fourteen rooms on one floor have been found there. The expedition will clear the floors of some of these houses to show the mosaics and other styles of interior decoration in Greek homes of Alexander the Great's boyhood days. The excavations will also provide new information about the city planning of that time, it is hoped. Olynthus was destroyed by Alexander's father, Philip of Macedon, in 348 B. C., when Alexander himself was still a child.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1931

A naturalist says that muskrats work industriously to provide food and shelter for themselves, and they never play at all.



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