

VOLCANOLOGY

Mauna Loa, Hawaiian Volcano, Will Erupt Within Three Years

MAUNA LOA, one of the two most famous active volcanoes in Hawaii, is expected to erupt some time during the next three years, and probably within the next 18 months, according to word received by Director Horace M. Albright of the U. S. National Park Service from Dr. T. A. Jaggar, volcanologist of the U. S. Geological Survey.

According to Dr. Jaggar, who is in charge of the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory in the park, Mauna Loa is the very heart of volcanology for the whole world, and is like nothing else in its certainties of glorious "fireworks."

With an altitude of 13,675 feet above sea level, it is the second highest moun-

tain in the Hawaiian Islands and one of the world's greatest volcanoes. It is steadily increasing its size as volcanic outbursts every five or ten years add huge masses of new lava to its bulk. The last great flow from this volcano occurred in 1926, after a dormancy of seven years, and lasted for nearly two weeks. A great flood of lava about 1,500 feet wide and thirty feet deep, it crept like a colossal motor tractor down the mountain's flank to the sea.

Spectacular and violent as are Mauna Loa's outbreaks, they are not dangerous, for there is always plenty of time and opportunity for onlookers to get to places of safety.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

Cotton Was Raised in Year One By Indians of Arizona

FROM a double handful of carbonized seeds found in a small bowl, capped by another vessel, resting on the shattered floor of an ancient dwelling, archaeologists of the Van Bergen-Los Angeles Museum field party have deduced the fact that cotton was cultivated in the Gila Valley, Arizona, as early as two thousand years ago.

The charred seeds, perfect in form, were easily identified by Dr. Thomas Kearney of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. He stated, "There seems to be no doubt that they are cotton seeds. The discovery of the expedition that cotton culture in the Gila Valley is of so great antiquity is most interesting."

According to Dr. Kearney, the cottons grown by the Pima and Hopi Indians from time immemorial are practically the same, the difference between them being mostly varietal. Furthermore, the cottons raised by these two tribes seem to be different from any of the commercial cottons of the world.

The Pima today are living on the same ground once occupied by the Hohokam, the people whose ancient village sites the Van Bergen expedition

has been exploring. Consequently there is a possibility that cotton plants of the variety now used by the Pima Indians are of the same species as those grown by the ancients in the Gila twenty centuries ago.

The theory that the Hohokam probably used cotton in the manufacture of textiles was advanced by Arthur Woodward, curator of history in the Los Angeles Museum, when two or three of the mica schist paint palettes found in cremation pit burials were observed to have the imprint of very finely woven cloth in the burned paint on their surfaces. At that time, however, no definite evidence had been found supporting this theory.

Carbonized corn and cactus seeds found in the debris on the site also give an indication of something of the type of vegetal foodstuffs used by the Hohokam. Ceremonial deposits of burned deer antlers and the bone cores of mountain sheep horns as well as small mammal bones scattered through the trash heaps indicate that these primitive desert dwellers were good hunters as well as husbandmen.

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