



#### A MANIFOLD BURDEN OF DEATH

No moth will ever develop from this fat tomato-worm; some enterprising parasitic insect has seen to that. The packets with which his body is thickly covered are the cocoons of its young, which will suck the luckless caterpillar empty. Photo by Cornelia Clarke.

#### ARCHAEOLOGY

## Ancient Egypt Knew Immigrant Tides From North

EVIDENCE that ancient Egypt actually received repeated waves of immigrants from the Caucasus, a thousand miles away, is discovered by Sir Flinders Petrie, noted Egyptologist of England.

It has been speculated by various scientists that the Egyptian race may have included blood of immigrants from this distant region to the northeast, on the shores of the Caspian Sea. In the Book of the Dead, sacred religious writing of Egypt, Sir Flinders some time ago found many place names which strikingly matched geographic names in the Caucasus and fitted into relative positions there.

The blessed fertile land of the Egyptian dead was the valley of Iaru; in the middle of the Caucasian valley was a real fertile place called the Iora.

The Egyptian blessed valley was said to contain lakes of fire; and in the Caucasian valley were real lakes of fire in the form of petroleum springs.

The capital of the Egyptian god of the dead, Osiris, was given the name Akret; the Greek capital of the Caucasus was Ekretike.

Such parallels, in Sir Flinders estimation, built a strong case, but an incredible one.

Now he reports to *Nature* that his excavations at Gaza have yielded ribbed daggers, typical of the Caucasus, and a multitude of toggle-pins with spiral or ribbed stems, typical of the same region. With this evidence in hand, he is ready to conclude that there were indeed migrations.

"This material," he declares, "opens our eyes to six migrations from the Caspian basin to Egypt."

The earliest of the six waves of southward immigration he places in the Badarian Age, or the very dawn of Egypt's civilization. The latest he places at the time of Saladin, medieval Mohammedan conqueror.

Gaza, where the Caucasian type articles have been found, lies not in Egypt but in southern Palestine. Gaza's history, however, was closely knit with that of Egypt. Sir Flinders' explorations there have revealed that Gaza was a great city of the Hyksos, the warrior horsemen who pushed their way down

from Syria until at length—about 1600 B.C.—they succeeded in exalting themselves as the Shepherd Kings of Egypt. It was in a palace courtyard of the Hyksos that the toggle-pins and daggers were unearthed. The Shepherd Kings have always been a mysterious set of conquerors. It now appears that they came, originally, from the Caucasus, moving west to Syria and then south on their conquering way which ended in Egypt.

*Science News Letter, September 15, 1934*

#### NATIONAL PARKS

## Rainier, Once Volcano, Now Flower-Wreathed

See Front Cover

MT. RAINIER, of late familiarized more than ever to the American public through its use on the three-cent postage stamp of the new National Parks series, once held fire within, and now holds ice and flowers without. This stately symmetrical peak, towering more than 14,000 feet over the valleys of the Pacific Northwest, is a volcano. It has shown no signs of fiery activity during the white man's acquaintance with it, though there is an Indian tradition of a great outburst long ago.

Of such commanding height, and so directly in the track of moist coastal westerlies, Rainier is bound to bring down upon its head vast quantities of snow. This snow is responsible for two of the mountain's great beauties: solidified into fields of ice, it feeds the twenty-eight glaciers that forever creep down the slopes; melted into water, it makes possible the marvelous gigantic chaplet of flowers, two miles wide and fifty miles in circuit, that crowns the mountain between timber-line and snow-line.

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between

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Professor of Zoology, Tufts College

and

JAMES F. PORTER

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