



### GOOD HUNTING

*You seldom see such a hunter's dream as this concentration of canvasbacks on Lake Merritt in California, but protective regulations are bringing an increase in these highly-prized ducks. The photograph is an official one of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

New equipment made it possible to play safely thousands of frail cylinder records on which scientists have preserved folk music and primitive songs.

Turning a crank, an archaeologist of today buried the Time Capsule at the New York World's Fair, packed with exhibits and records of our civilization for the archaeologists of 6939 A. D.

War in Europe endangered such irreplaceable antiquities as the Rosetta Stone (London), the Elgin Marbles (London), bust of Queen Nefertiti (Berlin), and temples and monuments in Athens and many other cities.

Discovery in Java of a fourth skull of Pithecanthropus provided scientists with the first chance to study a grown male skull of this ancient pre-human genus.

The undamaged silver coffin and golden ornaments of Pharaoh Psousennes I found in the Egyptian Delta were pronounced in some respects as important a find as the Tutankhamen tomb.

The sanctuary at Samothrace where the famous "Winged Victory" once stood was excavated, shedding new light on Greek mystery religions.

Pronounced the world's oldest "steel" weapon, a battle axe found in Syria shows skill of munition makers of 1500 B. C.

The American scientific achievement of surveying from the air Iran's ruined cities and unexplored mounds will greatly aid future archaeological digging there, the first published report of the survey showed.

Better understanding of King Solomon's empire-building and trade expansion ventures was gained, as an American expedition completed excavation of Ezion-geber, Solomon's combined seaport, factory town, and naval base by the Red Sea.

Measurements of more than 2,000 native blacks in the Solomon Islands provided valuable aid for solving the mystery of Negro past in Melanesia.

A world-wide survey of Polynesian culture relics in museums was brought almost to completion, despite conditions abroad.

The 1940 Census showed that population of continental United States has increased 7.2% in 10 years to a total of 131,669,275; while preliminary figures based on the census returns give the entire United States with its territories and possessions a population of 150,621,720.

The first meeting of governments to confer on economic and social problems of 30,000,000 Indians in the Americas was held in Mexico.

The Coronado Cuarto-Centennial celebrated in the Southwest stimulated historic and archaeological study of the Spaniard's route.

Explorations at Sandia Cave, New Mexico, added to knowledge of Sandia Man, recently-found aboriginal American so ancient that his campfire refuse lies beneath that of Folsom hunters.

Three successive eras of Folsom Man's career in early America were traced by finding a stratified corner of the Lindenmeier site in Colorado.

Three types of prehistoric American culture, dated by geological evidence at about 6000 B. C., 2000 B. C., and the dawn of the Christian era, were reported at a lake bed of southern Oregon.

Excavating the oldest town yet found in Arctic Alaska, an expedition traced well planned streets with more than 600 homes, and unearthed burials stored with art and cultural objects perhaps 2,000 or 3,000 years old.

An old Panama graveyard revealed the burial of an Indian official in gold regalia and surrounded by sacrificed slaves or captives.

Assembling massed bones of Chief Powhatan's buried tribesmen provided evidence for a better picture of the typical Virginia Indian encountered by colonists.

Appearance of the famous Hopewell Mound Builders of the Ohio Valley became less mysterious, as scientists, examining skulls of these Indians, found them a long-headed race, with a

custom of artificially narrowing the forehead in childhood.

Five colossal stone heads and other remarkable art objects unearthed in Tabasco Province, Mexico, added to knowledge of the Olmec Indian civilization which preceded the Toltecs.

### ASTRONOMY

## Naked Eye Comet Is Year's Most Spectacular Event

Five comets were discovered, four were new ones, one the return of a periodic comet found in earlier years: Kulin, periodic Whipple, Cunningham, which has attained naked eye visibility as the brightest comet since 1910, a new Whipple and Okabayasi.

By means of photographic observations of the effect it produced on two visible stars, an invisible companion was discovered to the double star system Zeta Aquarii.

The probable relationship between Encke's comet and meteors of the Taurid shower, which appear in the autumn, was demonstrated; both the meteors and the comet are apparently the remains of a larger comet of the past.

Taking into consideration new measures of their distances, the diameters of the largest known stars were recalculated, giving first place to Ras Algehi, in the constellation of Hercules, with 690,000 miles, and demoting Antares, formerly supposed to be largest, to fourth place.

Four exploding stars, of the type known as "super-novae," were discovered in distant star systems.

Fifteen "white dwarfs," stars of extreme density, weighing many tons to the cubic inch, were located.

From a study of the frequency of giant stellar explosions in distant galaxies it was estimated that a tenth of the stars in our own system might have exploded since the cooling of the earth's oldest rocks.

Shells of gaseous iron, discovered around certain stars afforded a clue to possible new facts with important earthly applications.

A theory to explain mysterious changes in the spectrum of the star beta Lyrae was advanced, suggesting that the star had the shape of an hour-glass, and a curved, comet-like tail.

A rare transit of the planet Mercury across the face of the sun, last until 1953, occurred on Nov. 11, and was widely observed, despite bad weather.

The five naked-eye planets, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, were lined up in the western sky in a rare formation.

A theory was advanced that the planet Venus is covered with clouds of solidified formaldehyde, deadly gas used on earth as a disinfectant.

Theories that the planetary system was formed by condensation of a great gaseous mass pulled out of the sun were shown to be untenable by a demonstration that such a mass would not condense but would dissipate.

The cosmic dust which permeates interstellar space was found to be very unevenly distributed.

The iron in meteorites was found to contain the same forms or "isotopes" and in the same proportions as iron originating on earth.

The world's highest astronomical observatory was established at Fremont Pass, Colo., an altitude of 11,318 feet, as a branch of the Harvard College Observatory for study of the sun's corona without an eclipse.

A reflecting telescope with a five-foot diameter mirror was placed in operation at the Argentine National Observatory in Cordoba.