



**TWO SPHINXES**—Almost intact, two sphinxes are shown with Zakaria Bey Ghoneim, Egyptian responsible for their discovery. To date, ten human-headed sphinxes that once lined the avenue near Luxor have been unearthed.

trees and glittering with all kinds of flowers." What a marvelous avenue must have greeted those holy enough to be admitted.

**Dozens Now Unearthed**

But again the road fell into disuse, this time after the fall of the Pharaonic dynasties. By the end of the Roman epoch in the fourth century A. D., it had been completely covered by debris. A new town, which chiefly centered around the temple of Luxor, spread out over the site. Only a small part of the avenue near Karnak remained uncovered.

Buried through the centuries, the first of the statues at Luxor was located only a few years ago below a Roman pavement by Zakaria Bey Ghoneim, then Chief Inspector of Antiquities for Upper Egypt. He has since unearthed other statues near their original

positions along the avenue from Karnak to Luxor. Today ten human-headed sphinxes, four intact, line the avenue near Luxor.

Not the only avenue of Sphinxes in Egypt, nor even in Thebes, this is the only one still existing that is lined with man-headed sphinxes. Other sphinx-guarded avenues have been known for some time; this has just recently been uncovered.

Each statue, cut out of a single block of sandstone, is about ten feet long and four feet high. They stand some 13 feet apart. Each sphinx lies on a rectangular base set upon a four-foot sandstone pedestal. The heads of most are missing, but fragments found nearby may furnish a clue to how they looked.

The figures at the other end of the road, those guarding the approach to Karnak, have the body of a lion but the head of a ram. These, not recent discoveries, have been known for many years and some are beautifully preserved. Several dozen of these may be seen by the interested tourist. Just where the two types of sphinxes meet along the processional avenue is not yet known. But the exact route of this avenue has been worked out through land maps and aerial photographs, and checked by trial pits sunk in several places. Part of the avenue runs directly beneath the modern town of Luxor.

This spring Mr. Ghoneim hopes to return to unearth more of these guardians of the avenue. Some day the whole two miles of the avenue may be cleared. Then perhaps a full thousand of these symbolic creatures will again greet pilgrims to ancient Thebes.

Science News Letter, March 22, 1952

**ANIMAL NUTRITION**

**Cats Have Sweet Tooth Like Other Animals**

► ALL ANIMALS are sensitive to sweet-tasting food, Dr. Hubert W. Frings, entomologist at Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa., has found from a study of animals ranging from snails to quail and rabbits to flies.

Dr. Frings has just investigated the charge that cats do not like sweets, a finding reported, he says, by a European scientist. It is false, he found. Tabby likes her sweets just as do dogs or rats or flies or children.

Twenty cats were tested in Dr. Frings' experiment. He offered them plain diluted milk and also the milk with sugar added. Each time they would take the sweet drink and leave the plain.

The European scientist was deceived, Dr. Frings believes, by the fact that the cat's sweet-sensitive taste organs are less numerous than the organs for other tastes.

Science News Letter, March 22, 1952

Television engineers have already proved the technical feasibility of a three-dimensional television system.



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