From Page 267

damage is confined almost wholly to bad or improperly designed construction.

Careful study of records of seven seismographs operated in California by the Pasadena Laboratory show that the origin of the earthquake was probably on one of a system of faults which run parallel with the coast in the vicinity lying between the towns of Huntington Beach and Newport Beach. The depth of the origin appears to have been less than usual, probably about six miles.

The occurrence of a small shock on the day before the main earthquake at 1:13 a. m. on March 9 which was sharply felt and caused some alarm at Huntington Beach is reported. The seismologists believe that its origin was near that of the large earthquake. It was evidently a preliminary tremor.

Nearly continuous seismic motion was recorded on sensitive earthquake instruments for many hours after the main shock. None of these was at all comparable in intensity with the main shock, the largest immediate aftershock being that at 10:59 p. m. March 10 with an amplitude less than four hundredths that of the main shock.

In the region just inland from the epicenter, the seismologists found some fissures in soft ground, sand-craterlets, and disturbances to ground water."

Science News Letter, April 29, 1933

PSYCHOLOGY

New-Born Babies Not Blind Like Kittens

HUMAN BABIES do not come into the world blind like young kittens. Infants' eyes, instead of greeting their new-found surroundings with the blind, innocent stare which has previously been attributed to them, are actually able to see objects and to follow their movement. This was disclosed to the meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology by Dr. W. C. Beasley, of Johns Hopkins University.

No one knows as yet just how his mother's face looks to the newborn, but evidence that he actually can see it has been found by Dr. Beasley even in infants only three brief hours old. Great differences were found in the visual ability of different individuals, and race differences were also detected.

Science News Letter, April 29, 1933

ANTHROPOLOGY

Modern Man May Be Old As Oldest of "Low-Brows"

MODERN MAN, *Homo sapiens,* may have been in existence in East Africa at the time when Piltdown man was living in England and Peking man in China. This is the conclusion to be drawn from the findings of a conference of the Royal Anthropological Institute which has recently met at Cambridge to examine fresh evidence from Kenya obtained by Dr. L. H. B. Leakey's archaeological expedition to East Africa. The reports of committees appointed by the conference to examine the geological, palaeontological, anatomical and archaeological evidence appear in full in *Nature.*

Until recently the oldest known example of modern man was thought to be Crô-Magnon Man, who lived in Europe in late palaeolithic or Old Stone Age times. Then last year Prof. Elliot Smith pronounced the skull found in London in 1925 and known as "the Lady of Lloyds'" to be the oldest known example of modern man, and dated it back to the beginning of the middle palaeolithic times, perhaps as much as 75,000 years ago.

Now Dr. Leakey has brought back from the fossil-beds of the northeastern shores of Victoria Nyanza fragments of three skulls, a part of a lower jawbone, crude stone implements belonging to two types of stone industry, and fossil animal bones associated with them, which he contends afford evidence for the existence of modern man at the very beginning of palaeolithic times and even before.

The verdict of the conference on these materials is that the stone industries, which correspond to the pre-Chellean and Chellean industries of the lower palaeolithic in Europe, and the fragments of the human skulls and jawbone were undoubtedly associated with the remains of extinct animals—two kinds of elephant, a deinotherium, mastodon, and others—which date them back to early and middle pleistocene, or Ice Age times, while the human remains show no characters inconsistent with their inclusion in the type of modern man.

Science News Letter, April 29, 1933

RADIO

GARDENS OF TREES

by

Dr. Rodney H. True

Professor of Botany and Director of Botanic Garden, University of Pennsylvania

This address will be given Friday, May 5, at 1:45 P. M., over stations of the Columbia Broadcasting System. Each week a prominent scientist speaks over the Columbia System under the auspices of Science Service.

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