



UNFINISHED BEAUTY

ciently satisfied with his partly-completed work to paint the stone lips a bright red.

The same British expedition which uncovered the new portrait head also found a broken sculpture, in unfinished condition, showing the face of Nefer-titi's consort, the "heretic pharaoh" Ikhnaton, who tried to introduce a monotheistic religion in the place of Egypt's worship of many gods. Another discovery was a slab bearing in low relief the portraits of Ikhnaton and of his son-in-law, Smenkhkara.

*Science News Letter, June 17, 1933*

## GEODESY

## Sea Level Higher on Pacific Than on Atlantic Coasts

**S**EA LEVEL is not strictly on the level. It is higher in some places than it is in others, H. G. Avers, chief mathematician of the division of geodesy, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, informed scientists attending the Fifth Pacific Science Congress in Vancouver.

At Prince Rupert, B. C., mean sea level is 1.64 feet higher than it is at Halifax, N. S.; at Seattle it is 1.18 feet higher than at Portland, Maine, and at San Diego, Calif., it is 1.74 feet higher than it is at Fernandino, Florida.

*Science News Letter, June 17, 1933*

## PSYCHIATRY

# Mental Attacks Return Mind Of Young Woman to Infancy

## Parental Cruelty is Apparently Responsible For Adult Using Baby Talk and Amusing Self With Ticking Watch

**T**IME TURNED backward for the young married woman, 20 years old, described by Dr. Mandel Sherman and Blake Crider, of the University of Chicago, in a report to the *American Journal of Psychiatry*.

After an accident in which she wrecked the family automobile, this girl, whose last name is withheld from publication, was subject to severe attacks sometimes diagnosed as epileptic seizures, in which she would be unconscious and insensible to pain. Following these attacks she would literally become as a little child.

One such turning back of time took her almost to infancy. She spoke in typical baby talk, and could neither write nor draw pictures. Although she is an inveterate smoker, she had no idea of what to do with a cigarette. She did not recognize her own name, Mabel Ruth, and then it was remembered that the Ruth was an addition that had not been made until she was 14 years old.

Another attack took her still further back into babyhood. She smiled and played just as would a child about two years old. She was greatly amused by the ticking of a watch, reached for it and held it to first one ear and then the other, and then would toss it into the air as though it were a ball.

In other attacks, she re-lived various experiences of her childhood—many of them connected with some bit of cruelty of her foster mother.

For that seemed to be the origin of her mental troubles. Mabel Ruth had been placed in an orphanage by her parents during her first year and was adopted when she was 16 months old. Not until she was 12 did she hear that her foster parents were not her own, and then it was through unkind gossip that it reached her ears. One aunt told her untruthfully that she was the illegitimate daughter of her foster father.

This foster father was kind to her, but the mother was cruel and would slap and kick her and even strike her with a broom handle. Her foster rela-

tives were considered community problems and several had very unsavory reputations. At 19 she married to get away from home, but was not in love and the marriage was very unhappy. It was after the marriage that the attacks became most severe.

During the returns to childishness, standardized mental tests were given her, and she passed them as would the child she seemed to have become.

Treatment consisted in discussing her trouble with her and showing her that past events and difficulties were the basis for her present attacks. Through a local newspaper she was enabled to locate her real parents. Within a year she became apparently normal.

*Science News Letter, June 17, 1933*

## AGRICULTURE

## Hot Weather Favors Belated Spring Planting

**S**UDDEN hot weather and a cessation of rains, coming on the heels of a most persistently wet, cold spring, has already undone much of the mischief wrought by the earlier unfavorable conditions, a survey by the U. S. Weather Bureau has disclosed. Over most of the grain belt states, where spring planting was held back until farmers had begun to be alarmed, the bulk of the crop is in. Farmers have put in extra long hours at the planting, in many cases working late at night. The high temperatures, ranging from 10 to 13 degrees above normal, have favored quick germination and growth.

On the basis of past records, the weather during May and to date in June should be favorable for a good yield of spring wheat. There has been a fairly close correlation between wet, warm weather in May and June and a good spring wheat crop in former years; and the weather conditions in the spring wheat area so far are those of a "good year."

*Science News Letter, June 17, 1933*