

Tyrosinase was tried, first in rats and dogs and then in human patients, as a possible high blood pressure remedy because Dr. Schroeder believed the substance responsible for some varieties of high blood pressure may be a chemical

containing a phenolic group. This chemical group can be broken down by the mushroom enzyme. The results suggest, he says, "that some phenolic substance is altered."

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PALEOBOTANY

Ethiopian Climate Now Like Arizona's Long Ago

Forests in Early Dinosaurian Days Were Dominated By Great Tree Ferns and Relatives of Conifers

CLIMATIC conditions like those in parts of modern Ethiopia prevailed in the American Southwest 170 million years ago, when the long reign of the dinosaurs and their great reptilian kin was just beginning. This is indicated by fossil plant remains in one part of Petrified Forest National Monument in Arizona, studied by Dr. Lyman H. Daugherty of San Jose State College in California. Dr. Daugherty's report has just been published by the Carnegie Institution of Washington, along with a description of the geology of the region by Howard R. Stagner of the U. S. National Park Service.

The forests of Arizona in early dinosaurian days (Triassic, to geologists) were dominated by great tree ferns and relatives of modern conifers, Dr. Daugherty states. Higher flowering plants of the broad-leaved types were not to make their appearance for many millions of years. However, plant evolution was going on quite rapidly, as the saurians lumbered onto the scene.

Presence of tree ferns argues a warmer climate than that of present-day Arizona;

it was a warm-temperate or subtropical world. Conifer tree trunks show very sharply marked annual rings, indicating an abundance of rain during part of the year, followed by a severe dry season in which no growth took place. Great size of the petrified logs indicates a climate far better suited for tree growth than is the present climate of the Southwest.

Dr. Daugherty has come to the conclusion that in Triassic Arizona there were moist stream valleys with thick, jungle-like forests, the plateaus between them supporting lower vegetation with scattered trees. This kind of formation, called savanna by ecologists, is characteristic of parts of Ethiopia and other regions in Africa, as well as certain areas on the outskirts of the great central tropical forest mass in South America.

Evidence of forest fires in the ancient woods was turned in the form of boat-shaped log fragments crusted with fossil charcoal. However, no healed-over fire scars have been found, to indicate that trees suffered fire injury while living.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

Parts of Jerusalem's Third Wall Revealed at Last

WAR or no war, two archaeologists in Jerusalem are now methodically digging to clear up remaining mysteries concerning the Holy City's historic and controversial Third Wall.

This is the wall built by Herod Agrippa not many years after the death of Christ. St. Paul viewed this new and ambitious wall enclosing Jerusalem, in

the days when boldness of building such a fortification aroused suspicion that Jewish King Agrippa planned a revolt against Rome.

Starting last August, Professors E. L. Sukenik and L. A. Mayer of the Hebrew University resumed their investigation of the route of this long-buried Third Wall. Since 1925, these two, assisted by other

archaeologists, have pursued this digging project at intervals. Road construction in northern suburban Jerusalem offered the present good chance to inspect hidden depths of the city's past.

Digging in progress has revealed the foundation course of a wall and tower to the east of a modern American landmark in Jerusalem—the American School for Oriental Research.

Every foot of the buried walls of Jerusalem added to the map picture of the past is eagerly hailed by scholars because of arguments over true location of venerated sites. Especially keen is interest over the location of Jesus' tomb, which Biblical narrative places outside the city gate.

Discoveries of wall fragments in recent years have convinced some archaeologists that the famous Church of the Holy Sepulchre cannot be the site of Jesus' tomb, because they reconstructed the lines in such directions that the church would stand inside, not outside, the old Second Wall—the wall of Jesus' day.

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre owes its veneration to events in the fourth century when Emperor Constantine and his mother, Helena, took great interest in sites and relics relating to Christ and the location of the tomb was fixed where church and shrine stand.

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