



Harvard U.

ANCIENT MARBLE SLAB—This representation of the menorah (seven-branch candlestick), palm-tree, and shofar (ram's horn), on a marble slab, gave proof that the luxurious building discovered by archaeologists on a Harvard-Cornell expedition was the center of a Jewish community. The synagogue of ancient Sardis, dated by its inscription to the third century A.D., is one of the earliest known.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Synagogue Ruins Found

➤ AMERICAN archaeologists have uncovered the ruins of an ancient Jewish synagogue in Turkey.

The synagogue was discovered by Harvard professor, D. G. Mitten, who was searching among Roman ruins of Sardis, a Biblical city, in western Turkey. It was built in the third century A.D. when Sardis was one of the Seven Churches of Asia.

The synagogue gives a picture of Jewish communities visited by St. Paul on his travels through Asia Minor.

Prof. Louis Robert, director of the French Archaeological Institute, says that the inscription plaques in the synagogue throw a "flood of light" on the ancient Jewish societies which played an important part in civic life under Roman rule.

The structure, 60 by 120 feet, half of which is excavated, has been established as a Jewish meeting place by finds of marble slabs showing a seven-armed candle holder (menorah) and a carved ram's horn symbolic of the Jewish New Year. It is divided into two halls, separated by triple gates. Two marble platforms that may have served as reading lecterns project into one hall.

The floors are mosaic, inlaid with donor inscriptions. Marble lions adorn the tops of columns while figures of birds drinking from the fountain of life, doves and fishes decorate the walls.

The longest inscription plaque belongs to an anonymous donor and his wife, Regina,

who gave the wall reliefs and paintings. Two ranks, "Elders" and "Pious Men," have been identified as well as two jewelers, city councilors and the names of entire families.

A marble chamber was discovered from an earlier period in Sardis history, deep within an enormous Lydian burial chamber, by architects, St. L. Carter and D. Stieglitz of Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Other finds include a tomb that dates Sardis to the thirteenth or fourteenth century B.C., shops of the bazaar during the time of Croesus, a king of legendary wealth, and a multi-dome Byzantine church.

The expedition was directed by G. M. A. Haufmann of Harvard and A. H. Detweiler of Cornell.

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PSYCHOLOGY

Discontented Men Cause Uprisings in Antarctic

➤ SMALL GROUPS of discontented men have frequently taken control of camps during scientific expeditions in the Antarctic.

Such uprisings have occurred in Australian research expeditions, an Australian army psychologist, Lt. Col. A. G. Owens, claimed in Perth. He said most expedition leaders reported that not "at any price" again would they have ten per cent of their men in camp.

Col. Owens spoke to the Australian branch of the British Psychological Society in Perth on the problems of selecting men for Antarctica. He said few groups avoided trouble because of alcoholic excess by one or two members.

The amount of alcohol at camps was restricted and kept under the control of expedition leaders. In spite of this, alcohol became a focal point of trouble among men often isolated in camps for six months at a time.

Stealing was also widespread. Isolation caused severe stresses, including insomnia. Emotional disturbance after the arrival of mail could put a man out of action for a week, he added.

Col. Owens said two problems arose in the selection of expedition members: limitation of choice, and lack of knowledge of what to seek in candidates.

Although formal rules were clearly defined, informal relationships at camps were highly liberal. Expedition leaders often had difficulty in maintaining control. They could not punish their men, stop pay or cancel leave.

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PSYCHOLOGY

Color Dreams Outnumber Drab Black and White

➤ DREAMS are in real color, like everyday life, not merely drab black and white. Eight times out of ten this is true, two psychologists and two psychiatrists report in Science, 137:1054, 1962. Their study upsets earlier research that dreaming is usually colorless.

Dream tests were made on college men and women who were requested to spend a night to two in the laboratory. Using encephalograms of brain waves, the eye movements of sleeping students could be observed as they followed the action of their dreams. At the signal of dreaming the students were roused to narrate their dreams to a tape recorder. Investigators asked follow-up questions.

Scientists found that of the 38 students (10 women and 28 men) who were awakened 100 times, 87 dreams were recalled. Sixty-one were in color, 11 were slightly colored and 15 were colorless.

Color dream responses were classified as "elicited" and "spontaneous." A spontaneous response was of the type given by one man in his narration, "I saw all the girls come in and they were wearing bright red bathing suits."

An example of the elicited response was that of a girl who mentioned during her dream narration, "a bar of soap in the bathtub with a baby." When later she was asked how the soap looked, she replied, "Like any bar of soap. It was round, it was pink . . ." Color was mentioned spontaneously in 22 dreams and elicited by the experimenter in 39.

Drs. Edwin Kahn and Joseph E. Barmack, psychologists of the City College of New York, Drs. William Dement and Charles Fisher, psychiatrists, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, made the investigations.

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