

"It is quite probable that the Sumerians once inhabited some part of Arabia, and there is hardly any other place from which they could have come. Deserts must have become drier since the Ice Age. A relatively slight decrease in rainfall would be enough to turn habitable grassy plains into deserts and drive the wanderers to the well-watered valleys.

"Such causes may also have operated in Africa. They may have caused the first peopling of Egypt and the gradual driving back of the Stone Age folk along the western margin of Europe. They may have driven the Central Asiatic nomads down to the plains of China.

"There is no new direct evidence of an early Sumerian civilization in southern Arabia, but it is one of the few remaining regions of the world not yet explored," Mr. Crawford continued. "No archeological excavations have been made there, and except for one or two reconnaissances, no European traveller has ever been there.

"It is possible that mounds such as have recently been discovered in India exist there. Major R. E. Cheesman, the latest traveller who has penetrated into southern Arabia, visited Jabrin and made some interesting observations on the Al Murra, a race of people now inhabiting that oasis.

"They live entirely in tents; they speak Arabic, but only in addition to their native tongue, and until two years before his visit they were pagans," Major Cheesman said. "The Al Murra type of face reminds me of the features to be seen on early Sumerian sculptures. It is not unreasonable to suppose that they are the remnants of this, the earliest civilization, left unchanged and unaffected by the passing of nations in the fastnesses of their desert stronghold."

BRAINS MORE USEFUL THAN BEEF IN SPORTS

The most valuable gift a baseball or football player can have isn't extraordinary strength or endurance or even speed. All of these won't keep him in the spotlight of fame if he lacks brains, according to tests being made by Dr. C. H. Bean, psychologist at the University of Louisiana.

The quality which Red Grange, Illinois football star, regards as most important in his success really comes second, said Dr. Bean. This quality has been described as "the perceiving of motion of several men in terms of a player's own motion, so that he knows where all of them will be when he himself reaches a desired position."

"But intelligence is so important in this," explains Dr. Bean, "that if intelligence is left out, as it can be by mathematical calculation, the mere speed of reaction to a situation is secondary."

Muscular strength and endurance rank third among the factors of success thus far measured, and weight or "beef" is fourth.

All this is true for such sports as football, baseball, and basketball, but when it comes to track and field events intelligence becomes less vital and

physical qualities take a rise in value, the tests indicate.

Dr. Bean is making a job analysis of athletics in order to find out definitely what makes one man a star in sports and another a dub. He also hopes to show to what extent athletic training develops those factors which are most needed in practical life. Results shown by the scientific tests of speed, intelligence, endurance, strength, and judgement are being compared with the ratings given to the athletes by their instructors and coaches.

In order to measure the speed with which different athletes respond to a situation, a special piece of apparatus has been devised. A series of pictures is shown to the athlete, and as soon as he sees each one and recognizes its meaning, he is expected to take a leap. If he would like to experience what he sees in the picture he leaps forward, but if he would dislike it he is expected to leap back.

STUDY OF APE-MIND HINDERED BY APE SHORTAGE

Finding out what a chimpanzee thinks about it proving a slow and difficult task for psychologists not because the chimpanzee doesn't think, but because there are so few apes available for scientific observation.

"If stories of killing that come to us from the native homes of higher apes may be believed, there is real danger that the source of supply of apes used in psychological investigations may be entirely wiped out before many years have passed," is the statement made by Dr. H. C. Bingham, of the Institute of Psychology at Yale University, where four chimpanzees are being studied.

"A colony of fifteen anthropoid apes, such as we studied in Havana last year, is one of the rarest in modern animal collections," said Dr. Bingham. "Most of us are fortunate if we have one or two such animals for laboratory study. And for a single scientist to observe all types of the higher apes through all stages of development is, in the present state of our scientific resources, utterly impossible."

Dr. Bingham, who recently addressed the American Psychological Association, has urged that psychologists carefully standardize their methods of studying apes and make their experiments scientifically precise, because of this shortage of subjects. Such precision is necessary to make the isolated observations comparable.

"The investigator in ape psychology is working with extraordinary animals and with something new in behavior turning up every few minutes one is inclined to seek amusement with, rather than knowledge about, his subject," he points out.

Study of the higher apes which are more like man than any other animal is expected to shed light on the development of mental processes. Dr. Bingham states that tests devised in the study of the anthropoid apes should be of great assistance in measuring the mentality of primitive races.
