

Balloon Photographs Armageddon

Archæology—Aviation

Archaeologists Get Air Picture of Palestine Site

Air view taken with small meteorological observation balloon at a height of about 400 feet.

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AERIAL photography, as applied to archaeological field excavations in the Near East through the use of meteorological balloons equipped with cameras, has been introduced for the first time by the Megiddo Expedition of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, now clearing the great Mound of ancient Armageddon in Palestine. P. L. O. Guy, field director of the expedition, who served as a machine gun officer in the Great War, has just reported his successful application of observation balloon photography to the recently excavated levels of Megiddo.

The success of his experiments holds great promise for the compilation of mosaic maps of this and other sites now being excavated by the Oriental Institute. Heretofore the greatest difficulty has been experienced in securing air views from airplanes because, in order to get proper detail, the planes must fly so low that their speed interferes with the camera's accuracy.

Mr. Guy employs a balloon capable of lifting about forty pounds, or considerably more than the weight of a home-made, light-weight, fixed-focus camera with film holder and



ingenious release mechanism whereby the camera can be operated from the ground. The balloon is on very strong, thin piano wire and is raised and lowered by a winch which registers its height. Even with adverse wind conditions remarkable results have been obtained. The mosaic air-view plans already compiled cannot be distinguished from the best airplane photographs.

The use of these small balloons may be extended to the recording of areas suspected of containing archaeological ruins so long buried

beneath the surface of the ground that even when light conditions are absolutely favorable they escape detection except from the air.

The entire surface of the Mound of Megiddo, comprising nearly 70,000 square yards, has now been cleared down to the age of Solomon, 970-932 B. C. Work is progressing rapidly, and it is expected that beneath the Solomonic level will be found evidence of ancient Egyptian domination, of the greatest significance and interest to historians.

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Psychologists Offer Test Service

Psychology—Employment

A GROUP of well-known American psychologists have found a way for the working man and woman to put psychological tests to personal use.

This group, the Psychological Corporation, has arranged a testing service, whereby any one can take an assortment of tests of mental and other abilities and can obtain a certificate. The certificate, signed by an examiner accredited by the Corporation, shows the standing made by the individual in the different types of test. The job-seeker thus gains a

new sort of credential to present when he or she enters an employment office in the business or factory world.

The Psychological Corporation has for president Dr. R. S. Woodworth, professor of psychology at Columbia University, and for chairman of the directors Dr. J. McKeen Cattell, president of the recent International Congress of Psychology, and editor of *Science*. Well-known psychologists connected with universities, laboratories, and clinics represent the corporation in its activities throughout

the country. These scientists have now taken on the new project of giving vocational counsel, conducting tests of ability, and certifying to the demonstrated abilities of individuals, all with the idea of aiding individuals to find the place in industry and business where they will best fit, it was explained by Dr. Paul S. Achilles, secretary of the corporation. Fees for examining and counsel vary, Dr. Achilles said, but the corporation is not a money-making enterprise, and a portion of all fees received is invested in research.