

GENERAL SCIENCE

**Researches Assisted By
National Research Council**

INVESTIGATION of the speed and characteristics of eye movements as a sign of the adequacy of adaptive behavior in children and adults and a study of X-rays comprise two of the eleven widely varying problems of research, attack on which has been assisted by grants recently made by the National Research Council.

The study on reflex and voluntary eye movements is being conducted by Dr. Roland Travis, associate professor of psychology, Western Reserve University. The study of diffraction of X-rays by polar molecules subjected to high steady and alternating fields, is being conducted by Dr. Arthur A. Bless, associate professor of physics, University of Florida.

Other appropriations made by the Research Council's Committee on Grants-in-Aid were distributed among the following investigations:

An investigation of the width, intensity and structure of the modified line in the Compton effect. This is being studied at Stanford University by Dr. Perley A. Ross, professor of physics.

A criterion for the correlation of Devonian formations is being sought by E. M. Kindle, chief, division of paleontology, Geological Survey of Canada, Department of Mines, Ottawa.

A comparative study of glacial worn and river worn cobblestones, an attempt to find characteristic distinguishing markings, undertaken by Dr. Chester K. Wentworth, associate professor of geology, Washington University.

An investigation of the purine fraction of the nucleic acid molecule by Prof. L. R. Cerecedo of the University of California, a study of the antike-togenic value of various carbohydrates by Prof. Harry J. Deuel, Jr., of the University of Southern California, and a study of bird malaria by Prof. Reginald D. Manwell of Syracuse University and a pathological investigation by Prof. Ernest W. Goodpasture at Vanderbilt University.

Research on the endocrines of nutrition by Prof. F. E. Chidester of West Virginia University and a study of the effects of variation in environmental factors and in the technique of cell study on selected types of cells by Prof. James B. Lackey at Southwestern College complete the list of awards.

Science News Letter, November 22, 1930

ARCHAEOLOGY

**Remains of Ancient Tribe
Found in Western Mexico**

**People, Who Were Not Aztec, Made Elaborate Pottery
Now Found By Party From University of California**

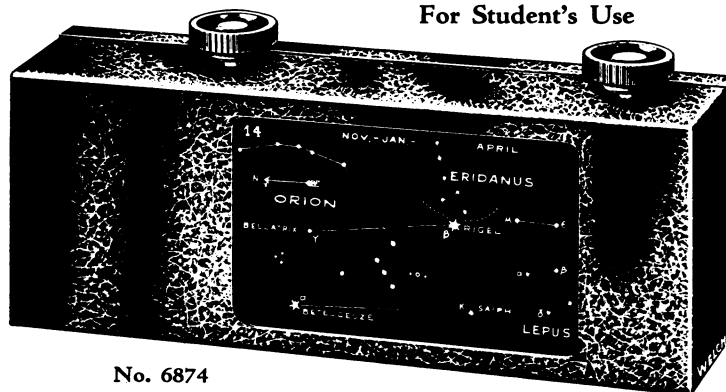
THIRTY-TWO forgotten sites where Mexican Indians lived before the days of the Spanish conquest have been discovered for science by a field party led by Prof. C. O. Sauer of the University of California.

The ruins are on the west coast of Mexico, where the Spaniards broke in and interrupted a high type of Indian culture apparently in its full flower, in 1530. The leader of the Spanish expedition, Nuno de Guzman, was so impressed by the large towns and dense population that he called the region Greater Spain. The Spaniards noted particularly the elaborate feather head-dresses worn by the prominent inhabitants, the gold and silver ornaments. They observed that the large cities had fine markets and that there were high-

ways. Within ten years after their arrival the culture had utterly collapsed.

Prof. Sauer's party found mounds and terraced pyramids and a few house foundations. No finely carved stone buildings, like those of eastern Mexico, were reported. These Indians built mostly in perishable materials. Among the smaller objects from their time that have endured are elaborate pottery, two-edged obsidian knives, decorated pipes, and spindle whorls. The culture is named Aztatlan, after the old regional name. The people were not Aztec, but probably like the Toltec.

"The Aztatlan people were lowlanders, tillers of the soil, fishermen, and salt workers, at constant and bitter odds with the cannibalistic highlanders," Prof. Sauer explained.

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