

A burned Pueblo pit house, excavated by L. L. Hargrave of the Museum of Northern Arizona, was dated 784 A.D. by the tree-ring dating method, and thus took rank as the oldest dated house in the United States.

The biggest Mexican pyramid, at Cholula, contains still older structures within it, a Mexican government archaeologist discovered.

Little known regions of Ecuador and Colombia were explored by the Latin-American Expedition, Inc., and studies of Jivaro and Aguaruna Indians were made.

A Brooklyn Museum expedition excavated burial mounds of ancient Indians of the Amazon Delta, and studied isolated modern tribes of Brazil.

A series of isolated and almost inaccessible rock-island fortresses was discovered on Kodiak Island, Alaska, by Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, U. S. National Museum.

An extra pre-sacral vertebra was found in 16 per cent. of males and less than one per cent of females among 200 Eskimo skeletons examined by Dr. T. D. Stewart, Smithsonian Institution.

Progress in tracing the ancestry of the Plains Indians was reported by Dr. W. D. Strong of the Bureau of American Ethnology, who excavated three layers of cultural remains on a mesa at Signal Butte, Nebraska.

Three thigh bones belonging to men of the *Pithecanthropus erectus* type were found at Trinil by Dr. Eugene Du Bois, confirming the existence of this type as a true zoological genus.

Fossilized skeletal remains of a new race, discovered in Algeria, were studied at the Institute of Human Paleontology, Paris, and thought to be an important link between early man in Europe and South Africa.

Homo soloensis, represented by a primitive human skull and fragments of another, was discovered in Java by W. F. F. Oppenoorth and C. ter Haar; thus adding to a series suggesting that Java has been inhabited since at least the middle of the Ice Age.

Remains of ten Neandertal men were discovered near Mount Carmel by the joint expedition of the American School of Prehistoric Research and the British School of Archaeology.

Bones of a woman and child who lived in the time of Neandertal Man were found in a mountain cave in Hungary by Dr. Ottokar Kadics, chief state geologist.

The skull of the "ancient lady of Lloyd's" was pronounced Mousterian in age, and the oldest known being of the species *Homo sapiens*, by Prof. G. Elliot Smith.

A cave containing an "art gallery" of engravings and fine polychromes of the Magdalenian period was discovered by Norbert Casteret, French archaeologist.

A Viking Age settlement was unearthed at Ballinderry, in the course of the five-year study of Irish civilization by Harvard University.

A series of burials, showing changes in cultures from the sixth to the eleventh century A.D., was excavated near the Baltic city of Memel, by Dr. Carl Engel of Konigsberg.

Continuing excavations at the ancient Agora of Athens for the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Dr. T. Leslie Shear found evidence confirming the identification of important buildings in the Athenian public square.

Soviet scientists explored the ruins of a submerged Greek city (*Turn to Page 402*)

GEOLOGY

Geological Work Threatened By Pending Cut in Funds

SERIOUS curtailments of important research work of the U. S. Geological Survey are threatened in the Department of the Interior appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1934, reported in the House of Representatives.

The appropriations committee eliminated completely the items for "fundamental research, geologic science" for which the budget estimated \$46,470 and the "investigation of mineral resources in Alaska" for which the budget estimate was \$60,180. In all, the committee recommended appropriations for the U. S. Geological Survey are \$457,400 less than the budget estimates of \$2,384,900.

Blow to Geology

If the appropriations for fundamental geologic research are not restored, the progress of geology in this country will be dealt a severe blow. The federal Geological Survey is the nation's principal research agency in geology, co-operating with universities and a few mining and oil companies which provide the only other organizations supporting geologic science.

The lack of appropriations for the Alaskan explorations would bring to an abrupt end the pioneer service under frontier conditions that was begun more than 30 years ago. Less than half of Alaska has been covered by the topographic and geologic maps necessary for utilization of its resources.

Volcanologic Surveys Remain

Volcanologic surveys, largely in Hawaii, remain in the bill with \$12,500, which is \$2,500 less than the appropriations for 1933 and \$6,010 less than the budget's recommendations.

The other cuts in the nearly half million dollars lopped off the budget's estimates for the U. S. Geological Survey reduce appropriations for topographic surveys by \$62,000, geologic surveys by \$35,700, stream gaging by \$81,400, printing and engraving geologic maps by \$64,170, investigations of minerals on public lands by \$25,180, classifica-

tion of lands by \$72,950, general salaries by \$3,340.

The whole Department of Interior bill recommends appropriations of \$43,192,904 which is less than the budget estimates by \$2,891,025. The only appropriations singled out for complete elimination in the whole bill are those for fundamental geologic work and Alaska resources investigations of the U. S. Geological Survey.

Funds Transferred

Under the economy act passed by Congress last spring additional funds for the current year were transferred by the Secretary of the Interior to the geologic surveys, fundamental research, and the Alaskan researches. Actual funds available for geologic surveys and fundamental research combined were \$500,000 in 1932 fiscal year, \$419,750 in 1933 fiscal year compared with the \$300,000 proposed for geologic surveys and nothing for fundamental research proposed in the House committee report, a reduction of 40 per cent. in two years. For the Alaskan work \$69,000 is currently available, compared with nothing recommended.

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The Science Service radio address next week will be on the subject

THE MENACE OF CANCER

by

Dr. Ellice McDonald

Director of Cancer Research at the University of Pennsylvania

FRIDAY, DEC. 30

at 12:45 P. M., Eastern Standard Time

Over Stations of The Columbia Broadcasting System