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FIND HUMAN FOOT IN REMAINS OF DEBRIS AT LIME QUARRIES IN HILLS SOUTH OF HERE

Workmen in charge of the Torrance Lime and Fertilizer Company, South of here in the hills, have dug up a petrified human foot, perfect in shape, and along side of this gruesome find was a battle-ax, dating back probably 100,000 years earlier than the earliest period heretofore established by means of fossil evidence, and are in themselves of great scientific value. In addition, the indications that the lime-pits are really animal graveyards on a scale heretofore unknown and from a time heretofore unauthenticated, have served to quicken the interest of paleontologists in what may yet be found in this treasure house, which has come from the dim morning of the world, and lies right at our back door.

By far the most fascinating remains brought out so far is the so-called preserved human foot, which closely resembles in shape the kind of which scientists have agreed must have belonged to the man-ape. This foot is similar to the modern foot in form, with two important exceptions: It is so shaped as to rest far over on its outer side and it is exceptionally long at what would correspond to the point of the second toe of man.

These two points of difference from what would be expected in comparison with the modern human foot really fortify the thin evidence on which the whole concept rests. The gibbon, who comes closest to man and who seems to most nearly approximate the pithecanthropus, or man-ape, had a foot just about as far below this pseudo-foot as the foot of the modern man is above it. The human race, then, seems to be hanging on its toes to its monkey ancestors, which is not altogether inappropriate.

Substantiating the theory that what looks like a recast foot in limestone is really a human foot, is the fact that near it was a very clumsy fashioned battle-ax, which apparently vied as the head of a battle-ax or rude club of some kind. This chipped piece of stone with its two corresponding handle grooves at one and the same time hints strongly of man in its fashioning and by its associated animal remains points back to a period from which no reliable hint of man's existence has ever come.

In addition to the "near-foot" and the human weapon there are bones which are so crushed and so cemented in by the lime that it is difficult to say whether they are human or animal remains.

Near these closely human relics were found the bones of the animals with which man must have had to cope if he lived in that time. Likewise the story of the plant life of the period can easily be reconstructed after 1,000,000 years or more.

Assuming that man, ape-like, with beetling brow, long arms and still a trifle wobbly as he walked around with most of his weight on the outer edges of his feet, was present then, what were his surroundings?

He was in tropical surroundings, amid foliage luxuriant to a degree difficult of realization at this time. That foliage sustained the largest animals which, so far as is known ever existed.

He had to do with the imperial mammoth, standing fully fifteen feet high and possessing spear-like tusks. The fossil remains of such a creature, along with fully a dozen varieties of tropical trees represented in superbly petrified units, are plentiful in the pit.

The giant sloth, too, has left proofs of his existence in the shape of a portion of his spinal cord. Likewise the primitive three-toed horse, the bear, the wolf, the tree-browsing camel and a strange kind of deer, and a rhinoceros-like ungulate with ferocious straightforward horns.

But most terrifying of all perhaps, was the saber-toothed tiger, capable of preying upon any living creature and having teeth some fifteen inches long and rooted powerfully in a jaw of immense strength.

Bones, teeth, wood blocks, with their differing characteristics, fully preserved have come down thus across a period of 1,000,000 to 4,000,000 years. The growth-rings of the trees are still unmistakably present. Many of the jaw bones still hold firmly in their sockets teeth which go back to a time beyond the power of the human mind to fully grasp. The bones of young and old animals and of varying species can be distinguished. The story of the age-old battle between the land and sea is there with now one and now the other ascendant, but with neither permanently triumphant.

Against such a backward, reaching into the immeasurable past how strange sound the voices of those men who shout pompously of their little yesterdays, who count time by days and years and centuries and who solemnly speak of the Greeks as the ancients.

BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

GOLDEN BOOK OF BOY SCOUTS

Boy scouts of Philadelphia are to have a unique record of their achievements. The local council, at the suggestion of Dr. Charles D. Hart, have had a book made of golden parchment, in which are to be recorded the names and deeds of boy scouts who have done particularly heroic service. The book contains first of all, the names of the 19 of the 407 Philadelphia scouts, who paid the supreme sacrifice for their country in the World war. Next follows a permanent record of the names and deeds of all those boy scouts of Philadelphia who, having risked their lives for others, have earned the medals of honor granted by the National court of honor. So far, there are six names in this second group, as follows:

Bronze medal—Scout Lex Newman, who on June, 1916, saved a comrade from drowning in a stone quarry.

Bronze medal—Scout Fred Lange, who, in February, 1920, saved a four-year-old child from burning to death.

Bronze medal—Scout William J. Cassells, who, in June, 1919, saved a fellow scout from death by drowning.

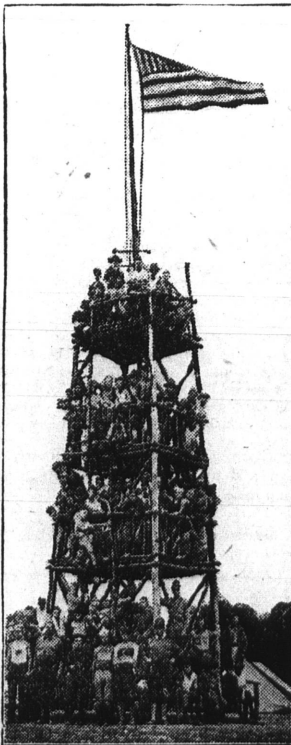
Bronze medal—Scout Thomas Murray, June, 1920, for striking water rescue at scout camp.

Silver medal—Scout Walter Friek, June, 1920, for saving another boy from drowning.

Silver medal—Scout Albert Grow, June, 1920, for rescuing another boy from drowning in the Manayunk canal, the second feat of the kind performed by him in the same canal.

An impressive service of investiture took place in connection with the dedication of the Golden Book, in which the six living young heroes participated. All scouts present stood at attention while the names of the recipients of the honor were read off, with the official recital of the deed of courage, for which each was to receive recognition. Each scout, so honored was summoned by bugle blast and stood while his name was being enrolled in the Book of Heroes, and received his medal from the chairman of the council. After this ceremony was completed, each scout, in turn, after three blasts of the bugle, retraced his steps through the archway of colors. The ceremonial followed is similar to that of the bestowal of the Victoria Cross or the Croix de Guerre.

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"The scout is a lover of the outdoors," says A. C. Wessel, writing of "Forestry for Scouts," in Boys' Life. "Trees, singly or in large groups, offer him many attractions and pleasures. He must not lose sight of the fact that to help plant and conserve our trees and to rate the forest which yields him fruit, fuel and timber for shelter, as a living perpetual resource is a patriotic service and duty."

NEW WAY TO RAISE WRECKS.

Still another method is being tried for raising wrecks from great depths. The latest thing in this work is hypodermic salvage. It is found that in vessels loaded with bags of rice, grain and malt it is possible to give them, so to speak, a hypodermic injection of compressed air. A sufficient quantity of this air is retained in the mass to make it buoyant. It is then possible to shift the grain from one part to another without its losing its quality.

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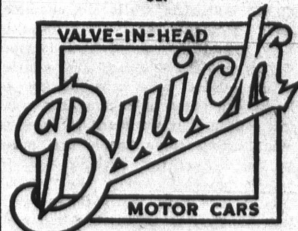
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