

LARGE PRE-ROMAN CITY UNCOVERED

U. S. Scientists Make Important Find in Italy.

Rome.—American scientific skill has unearthed at Minturno a vast pre-Roman city four times as large as Pompeii. It has priceless treasures in art and incalculable contributions to the knowledge of pre-Christian times. The excavations are being conducted by an American expedition under the auspices of the University of Pennsylvania and headed by Dr. Jotham Johnson of Philadelphia.

Precious objects of unknown value are yet expected to be found in the necropolis of this buried city, where the tombs are filled with rich treasure in gold and precious stones, so the archeologists believe.

After an inspection of the city with others, Doctor Johnson who described the great temples and ancient public buildings which he had so far brought to light.

Fifth Century B. C.
"The city of Minturno dates back to the Fifth century B. C.," said Doctor Johnson. "We have discovered works of art from that far distant period, which show a Greek influence. The city evidently was brought under Roman domination about the Third century B. C. and from then on until the Tenth century it suffered many changes. Probably it embraced Christianity about the Fifth century."

The concession to conduct excavations in Italy was the first granted a foreign organization in thirty years, while the territory assigned to the expedition is regarded as one of the richest in the field of archeology.

The buried city is located ninety miles from Rome and was touched by the ancient Appian way, several hundred yards of which the expedition has uncovered in its original form, with the big flagstones of Roman roads.

Greek Market Place.
Doctor Johnson exhibited a Greek market place, which, he said, was unique in the world and that such a find did not exist, so far as was known, even in Greece itself.

"We have uncovered fifteen constructions," said Doctor Johnson. "Some of the city walls must be of the Fifth century B. C., while there are others of the Fourth. There is a colonnade of the late Fourth century B. C. and three temples of the Third and First centuries B. C. There is a temple of the period of Augustus. Another temple is of the period of Sulla, with a tremendous sanctuary wall. There is a Second century A. D. fountain or water clock. There are the huge amphitheater, shipyards and docks, and the aqueduct, the latter standing above the ground for centuries."

Digging Well, He Finds Rarest Radium Field

Vienna.—The richest radium field in Europe has been discovered at Neuhaus, near Linz, in upper Austria, by a water diver, Herr Franz Niegler. A peasant, Franz Maier, about to dig a well, summoned Herr Niegler, who, using an old silver watch on a silver chain as a pendulum, obtained such violent reactions that he guaranteed that an abundance of water would be found nine feet down. When borings were made twice this depth without any sign of water, the puzzled diver sent samples of the earth to the government research institute in Vienna. The institute announces that the earth has the highest radium content yet discovered in Europe. It is stated that 11,000 tons would yield a kilogram of pure radium. The field is buried only nine feet down, has a depth of from four to eight feet, and extends a considerable distance.

Aged Italian Arranged Plans for Own Death

Parma, Italy.—Girolomo Piarra, eighty-eight, feeling himself near death, dressed in his best, and visited the parish priest, begging him to give him the last sacraments, as he felt his end was near. Surprised at the apparently healthy man, the priest heard his confession and gave him communion.

When Piarra had finished, he visited the undertaker, requesting him to take his measure for a coffin that would shortly be required, "as I am about to leave this world." Then he returned home, greeting all his friends and acquaintances whom he met on the way and telling them he was leaving them soon.

Autos Blamed for Slump in Umbrella Repairing

Petersburg, Ind.—The umbrella mending business isn't what it used to be, and it's all because of automobiles, says Thomas Snyder, ninety, on a visit here. Snyder formerly was a sailor, and held a Queen Victoria mariner's license. He left the sea 37 years ago and started repairing umbrellas. He returns here infrequently but said he would be back to celebrate his one hundredth birthday anniversary.

143-Year-Old Geography
Holyoke, Mass.—An American geography written 143 years ago by one Jedidah Morse and dedicated to William Livingston, then governor of New Jersey, is treasured by C. H. Burnham, of Holyoke.

Understanding

By RUBY DOUGLAS

(© by McClure, New York Syndicate.)
(WNU Service)

GRACIA Collins had an enviable income. And, now that she was the sole surviving member of her family she felt that she had a right to live as she pleased. She had always fitted her tastes to those of the family and it was not until the last two years that she had begun to be an individual and express her own personality.

Her apartment was not large, but it was furnished exactly as she had always dreamed her own home should be.

Today, she sat in the big cloth-covered chair beside a log fire in her library. All about her were shelves of books. A little autographed volume of Christopher Morley's lay open on her lap. She had found a line that had struck home. "Poetry must be lived before it can be either written or properly understood. And that is why the enjoyment of poetry is essentially a feeling of recognition: the recognition of something you thought you had forgotten or were hardly aware that you had once noticed."

Gracia's eyes took on a glow that made her very lovely. "So that is why I have begun to appreciate poetry of late. That is why I am secretly trying to express myself in verse," she admitted. "I have lived—I understand."

Perhaps the thoughts that tumbled one after another through her mind as she sat in the solitude of her own environment were not too tangible, even to Gracia herself, but when she finally moved to mend the fire her spirit was possessed of a strange homesickness.

"It's ridiculous," she said, quickly switching on a light. "I'm not homesick, I'm only lonely. I have all that I want—all that I have ever wanted—right here." She let her eyes wander about the room as if to convince herself that she was not mistaken. "I need a cup of tea. It is the dampness and the gloom that has put me into this mood. There, Christopher Morley, go back to your nook." She tucked the small volume into the vacant slit on the shelf.

"Music—that's what I want this afternoon—not literature. I'll have music with my tea." She adjusted the dial of her inconspicuous radio set in a secluded corner.

"Liebestraum," she murmured. "Oh, why is everything possessed to make me suffer this afternoon? That is the one bit of music that hurts, oh, how it hurts me." And yet she did not stir. She sat with her head in her arm on the big chair. Her tea grew cold. The last haunting strains of Franz Liszt's beautiful dream of love died away.

The voice of the announcer brought her back. She looked at the cup of cold tea and at the dying fire. A petulant, whining gust of wind sought admittance at the window. Gracia shivered.

She arose and walked toward the telephone. For a long moment she sat with her hand on the receiver as if summoning courage to lift it.

At last she called a number she seemed to know well. Her hand was cold; her lips trembled close to the glass mouthpiece. No answer. She waited to be told that the party did not reply and then she hung up the receiver.

A sound startled her. The knocker was being gently tapped.

She opened the door. A man with a folder of manuscripts stood there—Don Hubbard.

"I had just called you on the telephone," she said, trying to act cheerful. "The smoke from the fire has made my eyes too tired to read and I was—lonely."

The man put his cap—he wore a cap and tweeds as if he had come from the country—on a chair.

"I have been writing down at my sister's bungalow and, somehow, it seemed as if you were the only one who could help me," he began.

Gracia had made the fire bright again as offering him the big seat opposite her own.

"Poetry! But—Don—you never used to write poetry," she exclaimed after she had looked at the page he handed to her.

For an important fraction of a minute they looked at each other while understanding dawned in the eyes of both.

"Sometime I'll tell you what I have been doing this afternoon, Don," she said, later, "and that may explain many things."

The rain seemed not to chill Gracia now. The fire burned brightly. She was happy. They talked on about Don's efforts and Gracia almost admitted to him that the two years of perfect freedom were not too perfect, after all.

"You do miss your family and—the old home?" he asked when, in his heart, he knew very well what it was that they were both missing.

Gracia nodded. "I seem to need something more in my life," she whispered.

"I know," he said. "I have always known that some day you would understand. I have had faith, Gracia."

But one thing she would not do was to give up the lovely apartment. It was big enough for him, she insisted, and he had suffered too much to protest longer. After all, what did mere things matter so long as he might marry the girl his dreams had given him.

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IS LEFT-HANDEDNESS A NORMAL ATTRIBUTE?

Many people, including certain eminent psychologists, have long believed that right-handedness is a sign of physical, and mental normality and that the great majority of left-handed people become so through the ignorance and carelessness of parents.

Perhaps there's something in this theory, but Dr. Ira S. Wile, of the faculty of Mt. Sinai Hospital, in New York City, doesn't believe it. He has done a little investigating for himself and has arrived at the interesting conclusion that left-handed children were born so perfectly normal and natural in that respect.

And, what's more important, if Dr. Wile is right, it is all wrong to attempt to make over left-handed children so that they will become right-handed.

"Research has shown," said Dr. Wile to a recent gathering of psychiatrists, "that attempts to force the unnatural use of the right hand have caused behavior disorders such as irritability, lying and theft. "We have many persons to believe

that left-handed persons have their nervous systems focused toward the left sides of their bodies. They see more keenly with their left eyes. It is abnormal for such people to be made right-handed by practice. They should be allowed to stay as nature made them, for left-handedness is just as natural and normal as right handedness."

4,020 FIRES

A total of 4,029 fires burned in the forests of Pennsylvania during 1931, according to completed preliminary figures lately compiled by George H. Wirt, Chief Forest Fire Warden of the Department of Forests and Waters.

After accidentally stepping on a cherry stone and observing the greasy spot left on the floor an orchardist and canner now uses the pits as well as the fruit. The oil in the kernels is pressed out and used in the making of cosmetics, the left-over cake in the press is sold for fertilizer, and the shells are utilized for fuel.

JOBLESS OPERATE STILL IN PENNSY MOUNTAINS

Unemployed in the Pennsylvania mountain regions are operating stills, under the supervision and sanction of the State Department of Forests and Waters.

No moonshiners these, but distillers of wintergreen oil, a valued commodity. According to the Forestry Department,

a man can pick about 75 pounds of wintergreen a day. The stems and leaves are placed in a still one-third filled with water. Two hundred pounds of wintergreen are used in each distillation and the process produces about one and one half pounds of oil in six hours.

—If you see it in the Watchman, you know it's true.

Flour For Free Distribution

The Bellefonte Chapter of the American Red Cross has received 500 barrels of flour for free distribution within its district. In Bellefonte and Spring Township distribution will be made under the direction of the Associated Charities on Tuesday and Friday afternoons, to continue three months. The flour is stored in the Potter-Hoy warehouse on High Street.

Mr. H. P. Harris, Chairman of the Red Cross Chapter, also has for free distribution, Red Cross garden seed.

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