

ROMAN RECORDS IN AFRICA

Discovery It is Believed Will Throw Much Light on Early History of the Empire.

A discovery which, it is claimed, will form one of the fundamental sources for a history of the Roman empire under Augustus has been made recently by Doctor Oliverio, an Italian savant in Cyrene, the ancient Greek colony in Africa, founded in the seventh century.

A Morning Post correspondent, writing from Cyrene, says that excavations at Bengasi—the ancient Berenice, which stood in the midst of the garden of the Hesperides, near the mouth of the River Lethe—have resulted in the unearthing of a block of marble eight feet long, one face of which bears a flawless Greek inscription of over one hundred lines; the translation of a letter from Augustus on the government and administration of justice in Cydenaica, giving a wonderful insight into the financial and judicial conditions of the country at that time.

Other interesting finds are a sanctuary dedicated to Eastern divinities, probably of the time of Julian the Apostate, with a remarkably well-preserved black marble statue of an Egyptian goddess. An extensive Ptolemaic cemetery also has been located. At Apollonia, a Christian basilica of the fifth century is being excavated, and at Merd, the ancient Tere, some Coptic inscriptions have been found which are held to be of great importance when the history of the Arab conquest comes to be written.

Fight Plant Diseases.

While continued effort is being made to introduce promising new plants into the United States, the various branches of the Department of Agriculture are striving to avoid making additions to the imported insects and plant diseases that are already costing millions of dollars yearly. Foreign countries have listed several thousand insects of troublesome kind, with many plant diseases that are not yet included among these immigrants. Besides special quarantines and plant inspections the further precaution is being taken of restricting the numbers of the plants introduced and growing for a considerable time in greenhouses or under conditions of isolation, to make sure that all pests have been removed. After it is made certain that the plants are thoroughly freed from insects and diseases, they are propagated more extensively, and are distributed in the usual way to growers for experiment.

Aid for Struggling Authors.

Here is an item from the New York Globe of interest to impetuous writers: "It is not generally known that the Authors' League has a fund for authors who are in distress. Recently the league learned that a young woman who had won considerable distinction and prominence as a writer had through a series of misfortunes and through illness been reduced to dire distress. A representative called to see her and found her on the verge of a physical and nervous collapse, due to actual starvation. Immediate means were supplied her, and in order to give her an opportunity to regain her health and to get her back to her work a substantial amount was raised among the members to carry her through this period of enforced inactivity."

CAMERA DOES MOST OF WORK

Astronomers Sleep as Do Other Mortals, Leaving the Faithful Photographer on Guard.

Thanks to modern science, astronomers can now sleep at night.

According to popular tradition, astronomers are people who pass the entire night at one end of a telescope and can sleep only in the daytime or on rainy nights. But no more, according to Miss Annie Jump Cannon, assistant in the Harvard college observatory and curator of astronomical photographs of the college.

"Now the astronomer can go to bed at the same time as any other person," she said. "He turns his work over to a telescope and a photographer and waits until morning to study the heavens. Observations are now a matter of very expert photography, and deductions are made from the plates thus produced."

"At Harvard we have complete records of the heavens, dating back over many years, and these are preserved in what I call a laboratory of 300,000 volumes. Each book is a perishable glass plate which must be very carefully handled and guarded."

"On every fair night of the year in the observatory at Cambridge, and in the allied one which we have in Peru, a complete photographic survey of the heavens is made, which is turned over to expert observers on the following day for searching analysis. Of course the discovery of a comet or a new star is a great event for us."

Sympathetic Childhood.

Lately, in a garden not far from Boston, the lord of the manor set a trap to catch the woodchucks, that were monopolizing his vegetables. Instead of serving its purpose, the trap caught a neighboring family cat by the paws, and nobody dared to release the agonized animal—until two little children came along. Hearing the cries of the cat, one of the children gently petted the cat, while the other opened the jaws of the trap and released poor kitty. The incident serves to illustrate the fearlessness of sympathetic childhood in relieving distress.

KING CONS'ANTINE ROUGHING IT WITH HIS SOLDIER BOYS

(By Associated Press.)

Eski-Shehir, Anatolia, Oct. 19.—When King Constantine departed from Athens for the Asia Minor front he left behind whatever luxuries, pleasures and diversions belong to a monarch. Today, he is living in a mud house in this ancient Turkish settlement, with only his aide-de-camps as companions. His living room, which is adorned with quotations from the Koran, was until recently the harem of a prosperous local Turk. His bed is a modest iron affair that might be found in any American lodging house.

The King eats the same coarse food as his soldiers. The palace cooks and chefs were left in Athens. Eski-Shehir affords little that could be called luxurious. The chief diet of the 50,000 inhabitants is coarse black bread and sour milk ("yout"). This is not Constantine's regimen, but often his meals have consisted only of the native Turkish bread, a can of sardines and a fragment of goat's cheese. There is no wine to be had here. Tea, coffee and water are the universal beverages.

When the King received The Associated Press correspondent, he apologized for the poor surroundings and expressed the hope that the reporter had found better accommodations.

"I suppose we must expect some discomforts and inconveniences in a country like Asia," said Constantine indulgently, "but I wouldn't mind if only the houses were clean. This place wasn't fit for habitation when I came here first. But now after many days of sweeping, scrubbing and disinfecting we've managed to make the rooms tolerably clean."

"Since I came to Anatolia I think I've encountered every form of insect and bug that natural history speaks of. My greatest desire is to get a real bath."

Apart from the rather severe living conditions that confront the King, he has few or no diversions. He seldom ventures outside the walls of his homely Turkish domicile. It probably would be unsafe to do so. Except for officers of the army, he has few or no visitors. His personal admirers and the habitues of the court, of course, remained in Athens. The King passes much of his time perusing reports from his army and reading American and foreign books and newspapers.

Being a soldier, Constantine doesn't seem to mind the lack of comforts and the little hardships he has to contend with here. He is essentially democratic and simple in his tastes. It is this democracy and simplicity that have endeared him to his soldiers. That is why they call him "Pater" (our father).

The King's health has not permitted him to take active command in the field. He still has traces of his old pleural trouble.

Europe will come back in time and those who are now benighted will some day be knighted.

Kenneth L. Roberts says Constantine has a very large head. There is still a probability, however, that the Turks will reduce the swelling.

Monument to the "Marianna Raid" Victims Ready

(By Associated Press.)

Marianna, Oct. 19.—Arrangements have been completed for the unveiling here, November 2, of a monument, to the memory of the Confederate soldiers who fell in the Marianna raid of September 27, 1864. The battle was one of the three fought on Florida soil during the civil war. The legislature at its last session appropriated \$5,000 for the erection of the monument, which supplements a fund raised by the local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

The unveiling ceremonies will be under the direction of the Florida division of the U. D. C. Mrs. Frank M. Tracy, president of the Florida division at Pensacola, will make the presentation address and Gov. Hardee will deliver the unveiling address.

The program for the ceremonies calls for a street parade in which national guardsmen, Confederate veterans and others will participate. A 20 piece band from the naval station at Pensacola, will furnish the music for the occasion.

The monument is of Georgia granite, 35 feet in height.

Strawberry Men Making Showing Against Roads

(By Associated Press.)

Tampa, Oct. 18.—Hearing on the request of the Florida Railroad Commission and strawberry growers for an express refrigerator car service being conducted here before representatives of the Interstate Commerce Commission, continued today with growers from the vicinity of Lakeland corroborating testimony of growers in north Florida strawberry sections yesterday, as to the need of a cheaper and faster transportation service to profitably market their crop. With Plant City growers taking the witness stand tomorrow testimony of the complainants is expected to be completed by noon. Their testimony will be followed by that of railroad witnesses with the hearing probably closing Thursday afternoon.

San Francisco, Oct. 19.—Approximately 250,000 silver dollars are being made daily at the San Francisco mint under recent instruction to speed up production, according to Superintendent M. J. Kelly.

Every department is working to its fullest capacity and the mint is so busy that the plant officials have suspended, for a time, the rules permitting visitors to inspect the establishment.

According to Mr. Kelly, the coinage of silver dollars is being increased in order that the government might save interest on short term treasury notes.

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Russian Health Department Is a Fine Institution

(By Associated Press.)

Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 19.—The health department of Russia which is aiding in the fight against famine is described by a representative of the Friends Relief Mission in that country as a wonderful organization.

Writing from Moscow, as she was about to start from that city for Samara on a health department train carrying food donated by the Quakers, Anna Louise Strong says:

"The train on which I go down tonight has, besides its many cars of food (a traveling bakeshop that bakes a ton of bread a day, a kitchen-car that cooks 1,000 portions at one boiling, a dispensary car beautifully arranged but pitifully short of medicines, a waiting-room for patients, a sleeping-quarters and dining-room for the staff, and a bath and laundry. It will travel like a fast passenger train, carrying relief which the Russian peasants themselves have given out of their own poverty."

"The health department is non-political and under doctors' control. It has thousands of clinics and substations all over Russia. It works quickly."

"We went to Dr. Trebugov, its head of transport, with our offer of food, and in three hours our wagons were assigned, our permits issued, our food properly divided among the three neediest districts to which trains were going within a few days. We had only to load the wagons, seal them, put our own personnel in charge or allow their doctors to handle as we chose."

"It was up to us; we could work in any way we chose through them, and we could work quickly. If we had not automobiles enough for loading they offered us theirs."

"They are tackling an enormous job and doing it well. But their own organization is reported breaking in the district famine districts because of the starvation of doctors and nurses. They have the organization but they haven't the food, because all Russia hasn't it. Unless this health organization is kept intact, pestilence will sweep Europe. As I came from Warsaw to Poland, I saw no

Amunsden Lays Up Staunch Ship Maud Until Next Autumn

(By Associated Press.)

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 19.—The staunch little exploring ship Maud, in which Captain Roald Amundsen made the Northeast passage from Norway to Cape Serdze, Siberia, has been moored temporarily in the fresh

but it was pitifully inadequate. For the famine involves a district of well over 20,000,000 people, stretching 1,500 miles from north to south, and several hundred miles east to west, a district in which Russia normally depends for much food."

The sturdy craft will remain in the landlocked haven, ridding herself of barnacles, until early next spring when Captain Amundsen expects to renew his attempt to drift past the North Pole with the Arctic ice floes, interrupted last year by the loss of the Maud's propeller.

In the meantime, Captain Amundsen has announced he will make a brief visit to Norway, his home.

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