

Big Game Hunting Once Flourished In America

Washington (Science Service)—Big-game hunting once flourished in America. But that era was more than 10,000 years ago.

Evidence of where ancient Americans pursued giant, now-extinct ice-age mammals such as mammoth, mastodon, camel and, later, buffalo, is reported by Prof. Gordon R. Willey of Peabody museum, Harvard university, Cambridge, Mass., in the current issue of Science.

The day of the American big-game hunter ended, Prof. Willey reports, after 7,000 B.C. It was not due to loss of interest on the part of the hunters but to change of climate that wiped out the game. After America became warmer and drier, big-game hunting still persisted in the central zones of old continental grasslands. Men still followed buffalo on the North American plains and guanaco on the Argentine pampas.

Finds of projectile points shaped by pressure-flaking, accompanied by a variety of skin-scraping tools, showed that big-game hunters may have lived in Sandia Cave, N.M., before 15,000 B.C.

Finds of big-game hunting weapons showed that the sport, or means of making a living, spread over the eastern woodlands of North America, central and north-eastern Mexico, Venezuela, the Andes and southern South America and even as far south as the Straits of Magellan.

Scientists Discover Oyster Parasites

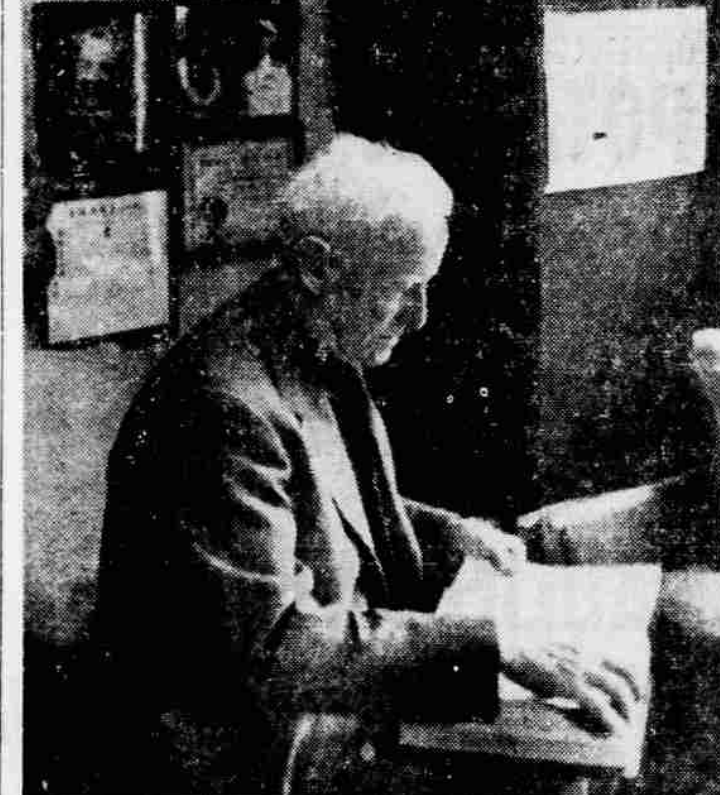
Gloucester, Point, Va. (Science Service)—A micro-organism never known before in oysters from Virginia waters has been found by scientists at the Virginia Fisheries laboratory here. Possibly a member of a group of parasitic one-celled animals known as sporozoans, the organism was discovered in Delaware bay less than two years ago, and is believed to be the primary cause of extensive losses of oysters in Delaware bay for the past three years.

Admiral Nimitz Recalls Low Point During World War II

By PETER J. MAYES
United Press International

Berkeley, Calif.—(UPI)—The old man with the white hair and ice-blue eyes gazed out his kitchen window. A drizzly rain and steely overcast shrouded a panoramic view of San Francisco Bay and he remarked, "it was a day like this."

The day was Christmas, 1941, and Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz recalled today that



BIRTHDAY NEAR—Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz, who will be 75 years old soon, browses through historical Navy papers from World War II in the study of his home in Berkeley, Calif. The Nimitz household, and particularly the study, is full of mementos of the Admiral's long career. (UPI Telephoto)

for him it was the lowest point of World War II.

A flying boat had just brought Nimitz to Pearl Harbor where he had been ordered to take command of the U.S. Pacific Fleet shattered by the Japanese attack 18 days before.

The Texas-born admiral stepped out of the plane into a small boat.

"A half inch of oil coated

the water," Nimitz recalled. "You couldn't sit down because it had slopped into the boat."

Tragic Sight

The admiral noticed scores of boats criss-crossing the harbor and asked me officer who had met him what they were doing.

"He called one of them over to us. It was filled with the bodies of dead sailors. They were still taking them from the ships to a collection area ashore."

From this ebb-point Nimitz began assembling the mightiest naval force ever amassed by one nation.

He directed the historic island-jumping campaign across the Pacific by a thousand ships and two million men and saw it climaxed in Tokyo Bay Sept. 1, 1945, aboard the battleship Missouri when he signed for the United States as the Japanese formally surrendered.

Next Feb. 24 Nimitz will be 75 years old. Committees are hard at work planning a huge birthday dinner which the old submarine officer purports to dread.

"Am I looking forward to this celebration? I'm looking forward to the end of it," he said in an interview with United Press International.

Nimitz has not retired. He is listed as special assistant to the Secretary of the Navy and has an office in the federal office building in San Francisco, although he has no set duties.

He and his wife, Catherine, live in their memento-filled home high in the Berkeley hills. A third member of the household is a small, long-haired dog of indeterminate parentage named Dyna-short for dynamo or dynamite.

The Nimitz's four children are scattered across the country. Catherine Vance is married to Navy Capt. James T. Lay, Arlington, Va.; Chester W. Jr., is a retired Navy rear admiral living in Houston, Tex.; and Anne Elizabeth works with Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, Calif.

Nimitz, an erect six-footer, notes that his weight today, 175 pounds, is just about what it was in 1904 when he stroked the Naval Academy crew.

He keeps fit by trying to "be moderate in input of food and drink." His principal exercise is horseshoes "as highly standardized as golf" and walking "but it's hard to find people to walk with anymore."

Views on Today's Navy

The admiral has definite ideas on today's Navy: "Missiles—When it comes to missiles I'm somewhat in the geographical center of Missouri. You still have to find a carrier to hit it with a missile. Two miles from the target of a fast moving carrier is not good enough. But as long as the Russians are building them we must also."

Russian submarine fleet—"It is a serious threat with 450-500 subs all around the world. The Germans had less than 20 at the start of World War I and about 57 at the start of World War II."

American subs—"We have a very fine nucleus for a submarine fleet and I think we got the jump on the Russians on nuclear-powered subs. We also have a large number of World War II subs in mothballs. And we have the men to man them."

Carriers—"Bombers trying to attack carriers will be duck soup for the carrier's fighters."

Centralized military service—"I would oppose a central service and I don't think there ever will be one. It would make a too-unwieldy force to handle and would destroy the esprit de corps of the various services. I believe in the Joint Chiefs of Staff system."

Nimitz differs from many top-ranking World War II commanders in one respect—He does not plan to write his memoirs.

Builder's Class Plans Mexican Dinner

The Builder's class of Eastwood Baptist church is serving an all-church Mexican dinner on Saturday, Jan. 30, at 6 p.m. Tamale pie will be served.

The church's young people will have a part in the program. Robert Balk will show pictures taken during a recent visit to Mexico City.

Each church member who attends the dinner is asked to make a contribution to the Youth Mexico trip fund.

U.S. Plans for Observing Moon, Planets Reported

Cleveland (Science Service)—U.S. plans for observing the moon, planets, sun and the entire universe beyond the solar system from earth-circling satellites were reported here recently.

Dr. Nancy G. Roman of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, said a "major undertaking" will be the launching, within a few years, of a 2-ton satellite with an optical telescope 36 inches in diameter, capable of tracking stars very accurately. In the relatively near future, she told the American Astronomical society meeting here, U.S. space scientists plan to obtain a good lunar map.

The director of Princeton university observatory, Dr. Lyman Spitzer Jr., outlined the problems of operating a large telescope in a satellite orbit. He said the problems of launching, communication and remote control are common to all satellites.

Pinpoint Accuracy

A large astronomical telescope in a satellite, however, must also be capable of being set with pinpoint accuracy at any desired region of the sky, despite sharp temperature

changes produced when the satellite enters the earth's shadow and then re-emerges into full sunlight.

Dr. Spitzer also pointed out that an unmanned observatory should operate for at least a year before equipment failures. He said the equipment being studied by the Princeton group includes a quartz telescope mirror 24 inches in diameter to be used for analyzing the ultraviolet starlight that does not penetrate through the earth's atmosphere.

Temperature Control

For temperature control, a

2-chamber satellite is planned. The telescope would be rotated by electromagnetic forces acting on an "inertial sphere," a hollow aluminum ball 16 inches in diameter suspended by a magnetic field and rotating without any friction. By the principle of reaction, he explained, when the sphere is rotated one way, the telescope rotates the other way.

The general direction in which the telescope points would be determined by measurements of the light from the sun and of the earth's heat radiation. To

obtain the required accuracy in aiming the telescope, television pictures of the sky, relayed to ground observers could be used.

Dr. Herbert Friedman of the U.S. Naval Research laboratory, Washington, said past rocket and satellite information indicate it will be "extremely important" in future astronomical experiments to introduce some way of eliminating the effects on instrument of particles in the earth's natural radiation belts, which are believed a hazard to future space travelers.

POPULATION FIGURE

Alaska's population is nearing the 200,000 mark.

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