

'Southwest Dig' Unearths 5000-Year-Old House

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NEA Staff Correspondent

RESERVE, N. M. (NEA)—The mystery of an advanced civilization that flourished amidst barbaric Indian tribes in Biblical times may be unlocked by the picks and shovels of scientists in a New Mexico desert.

An expedition headed by Dr. Paul H. Martin, chief curator of the Chicago natural history museum's department of anthropology, hopes to find, among other things, how the Mogollon Indians got along without going to war.

The Mogollons, a unique tribe, enjoyed life in roofed houses while most of their neighbors existed like animals in the hills and forests.

The expedition already has unearthed a 5000-year-old house, probably the earliest house yet found in North America.

But the Mogollons were not merely builders. There is conclusive evidence to prove that they were farmers and potters, too. They produced some astonishingly advanced examples of pottery, the designs of which indicate a high artistic development.

Their farming was crude, consisting mostly of gathering nuts, berries and seeds, but it was still a form of agriculture.

Archaeologists trace Mogollon civilization back to about 200 A. D., when they somehow got the idea of building pit houses with strong central supporting posts of wood.

These pit houses ranged from 13 to 28 feet in diameter, with a floor 10 to 40 inches below ground level. Storage pits were dug in the floors and covered with branches, and the Mogollons buried their dead in the floors.

Evidence gathered by the expedition has been dated by geological means. The diggers have turned up remains of early dogs and horses, as well as bones of the North American mammoth and camel.

Mosses of the long-extinct Mogollon tribe have been "pooled" to determine their preference for various types of pottery vessels, in order to classify culture phases chronologically. Vessels with polished exteriors, for instance, were known to have been used in a later

Italy's Livestock Up Since War

ROME (AP)—Italy's cattle population now exceeds that of pre-war years. Figures released by the central statistics office show there were 7,647,000 more than the 1938 figures, while sheep equal the pre-war level. Goats now number 2,174,000 head compared with 1,628,000 in 1938.

Only horses have not reached the pre-war level, numbering 720,000 against 793,000 in 1938.

The agriculture ministry program aims at 8,000,000 head of cattle before the end of 1950. The ministry expects to raise the number of pigs to 2,700,000 and to obtain better meat production through selective breeding.

bone and bits of broken pottery. Dr. Martin explains the expedition may help complete the still sketchy autobiography of mankind. He thinks that we may, perhaps, even learn the secret of peace, from a race long dead.

Anybody can be an archaeologist in the Mogollon territory, which is not far from here. Pit house villages with groups of 10 or more houses are easy to spot on the surface.

The real detective work comes after the actual excavation, when lives and customs must be reconstructed from such splinters of fragments of stone, splinters of

MEETEORITE IN RUSSIA
MOSCOW (AP)—A large meteorite fell recently in the Ural area. It exploded 22 miles over the earth's surface. Its fragments were scattered over an area of about 150 square kilometers. Many of these fragments already have been found and are being studied by Soviet scientists. They weigh up to forty kilograms each. The meteorite belongs to a group of rare stone meteorites.

Drop Use Of DP, Aussies Asked
CANBERRA (AP)—When is a displaced person no longer a D.P.? When he becomes a new Australian. Immigration Minister Arthur A. Calwell has asked Australians to stop referring to European immigrants as displaced persons, D.P.'s or Balts. He asks that they be called new Australians, newcomers or new settlers. Australia has received 50,000 Europeans sent here by the International Refugee Organization.

IDEAL HARVESTING WEATHER SEEN
PORTLAND, Sept. 1 (AP)—A week of "ideal weather" for harvesting and irrigated growing crops was reported by the weather bureau in its weekly survey.

ORPHANS HOLIDAY
BRUSSELS (AP)—A second contingent of 50 RAF orphans has been invited to spend holidays in homes found for them by the Belgian air force welfare section in Belgium. They will stay one month. A third contingent of 50 children will follow one month later.

SPRAGUE RIVER
Mr. and Mrs. Harley McWilliams and sons were visitors in Sprague River Friday. The McWilliams are former residents. Harley worked for several years here at the box factory.

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