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CONTINUATION AND END OF MANUSCRIPTS
for URUSVATI JOURNAL.

Despite political unrest and general economic depression, the scientific exploration of Central Asia and adjacent regions continues, and several important undertakings have been planned during 1932.

The Yale North India Expedition, directed by Dr. Hellmut de Terra, and organized by the Yale University, has just returned after a nine months of extensive field work. The expedition was organized to investigate geographical, geological and biological history of the NW Himalayas and the Karakorum region during the pre-glacial and post-glacial epochs. In his report to President Angell, of Yale University, Dr. de Terra writes:

" Surveys in this region indicate the geological recent origin of the southern Himalayan range. Strata which are so young as to be contemporary with formations laid down during the Ice Age in Europe and America have been folded and pushed out of their original positions by the great pressure of mountain-making in this region". Fossil plants and marine fossils found by the Expedition in the Himalayas throw new light on the sub-recent climatic changes in that region. Dr. G. E. Hutchinson, the biologist of the Expedition, has collected valuable scientific data on the fauna and flora of the Kashmir Valley and the Karakorum uplands. The important collections gathered by the Expedition are under examination. Through the assistance of the American Geographical Society, the Expedition was able to enlist a topographer who joined through the courtesy of the Surveyor General of India.

Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews is planning a new expedition to Inner Mongolia to search for the ancestor of the " Peking Man". Due to great difficulties encountered in negotiations with the Nanking authorities, the American explorer has decided to transfer his headquarters to Mukden in Manchuria. The Manchukuo authorities have accepted Dr. Andrews' offer to divide the specimens found, with the government, in return for unqualified co-operation. The expedition also will have Manchukuo scientists on its staff. In June, 1932, a brief telegram from Peking announced the return of the Sino-Swedish Expedition under the leadership of Dr. Sven Hedin. An account of this great undertaking is given elsewhere in this Journal.

The Lamb Expedition, whose object it was to explore the Koko-nōr region, has encountered difficulties on reaching Ning-hsia. The Society for the Preservation of Cultural Objects in Peking has demanded the cancellation of the Expedition 's passports and immediate deportation from China. Mr. G. Lamb was accompanied by his wife and seven other members.

of Forman College, Lahore

In August 1932, Professor J. M. Benade, conducted an expedition to Rupshu to carry out cosmic ray observations on high altitudes. Prof. Benade's account of this interesting expedition is given elsewhere in this Journal.

Captain F. Kingdon Ward, the well-known British exploring botanist, is leaving shortly on an expedition to Po-yul in South-eastern Tibet, for which he has received permission from the Tibetan authorities. It will be remembered that in 1931 Captain Kingdon Ward

and the Earl of Cranbrook conducted a fruitful expedition to Burma.

It is announced that another expedition to Mount Everest is being organized. Admiral Sir William Goodenough, Chairman of the Mount Everest Expedition Committee of the Royal Geographical Society, has announced that Mr. Hugh Ruttledge ^{has been} ~~was~~ appointed leader of the expedition.

An important epigraphical discovery was made by the Hungarian archaeologist Guillaume de Hevesy, and announced at a meeting of the French Academy on the 16th September, 1932. Some sixty years ago Bishop Janssen, of Tahiti, discovered a mysterious writing found on wooden tablets and other objects sent to him by missionaries from the Easter Islands off the Chilean coast. Professor de Hevesy has now demonstrated that these signs reveal striking similarities with the unknown script discovered at Mohenjo Daro and Harappa, and that both scripts have probably originated from the same source. This interesting discovery brings again to the foreground the question of the **existence of an ancient civilization with important ramifications in the basin of the Indian Ocean and the Pacific.**

The first definite link between the Indus civilization and that of Mesopotamia is reported to have been found at Tell Asmar by the ~~the~~ expedition of the Chicago Oriental Institute. According to

Dr. Henry Frankfort, whose opinion is ~~not~~ supported by Sir John Marshall, some of the objects discovered at the Tell Asmar site represent elephants, rhinoceroses and crocodiles, none of which lived in Mesopotamia at that time. These objects must have come from Mohenjo Daro in India.

In our Chronicle of Central Asiatic Exploration for 1931, we ~~had~~ mentioned the important excavations at Tepe Hissar in Northern Persia, conducted by Dr. Erich Schmidt on behalf of the University of Pennsylvania Museum, and the American Institute for Persian Art and Archaeology. During the last year's field season, the excavators uncovered a complete town site, dating c. 2000 B.C. Particular interest is attached to the discovery of a ruined palace which must have been the center^{ze} of the town, and which had been destroyed by fire. A cemetery situated in the proximity of the town site yielded many interesting finds. Copper daggers with beautiful checker-board pattern of silver on the grip; hundreds of small gold and silver ornaments representing birds; pedestals and large disks made of alabaster; vessels of beautiful shape and ornamentation. One of the most interesting of the finds is a copper plate, representing in low relief a buffalo felled by a lion. Near a corner of the palatial building was found buried a dancing girl, her body covered with silver and copper ornaments. In stratum I, the excavators unearthed beautiful hand-made pottery, painted with black geometric design on a vivid red background. The decoration of the copper implements indicates that the first level was perhaps contemporaneous with

the first level at Susa. Dr. Schmidt reports the important find of a treasure, which he dates c. 1500 B.C., and which includes five gold mouflon heads, beautiful diadem, necklaces, spear ornaments, copper weapons, and vessels made of alabaster. Tepe Hissār is situated in the vicinity of Dāmghān, which had been once the capital of the Parthian Empire.

In our last issue we gave an account of the Citroën Central-Asian Expedition, and its journey to Urumchi, which was reached on October 26th. After a month's stay at the capital of Hsin-chiang, the Expedition left on the 29th November for Hāmi, where another delay was experienced due to political unrest along the Hsin-chiang-Kansu border. From Hāmi, the Expedition journeyed along the Hsin-chiang - Peking caravan route through Su-chou, Kan-chou, Liang-chou, the Alashan, Ning-hsia, San-tao-ho, and reached on January 28th, 1932, Pao-t'ou. From Pao-t'ou the Expedition continued its march through Pei-ling miao, Khalgan to Peking, where it arrived on the 12th of February, 1932. The crossing through Kansu and south-eastern Mongolia was effected under extremely adverse conditions. The whole region was agitated in the turmoil of a rebellion, and the explorers showed great courage and endurance under attack. On its homeward journey the Expedition suffered the cruel loss of two of its most active members: Mr. Georges M. Haardt, the indefatigable leader of the Expedition, and Lt. V. Point, commandant of the China group of the Expedition. The large archaeological and ethnographical collections brought back by the Expedition, as well as the photographic records were exhibited at an Exhibition opened on June 13th in Paris.

Of particular interest are copies of the Bāmiyān and Turfān frescoes made by A. Jacovleff in his usual masterful way.

On November 30th at a solemn occasion held in the large amphitheatre of the Sorbonne, the members of the Expedition received the golden medal of the French Geographical Society. On this occasion the Rev. Teilhard de Chardin described some of the scientific results of the Expedition. Mr. Joseph Hackin, the archaeologist of the Expedition, was able to gather new information on the frescoes of the Turfān case. Mr. Hackin who is at present in Japan, has made in the course of 1932 a series of brilliant conferences on the results of his researches in Afghanistan and Eastern Turkistān. The Rev. Teilhard de Chardin himself made during the thirteen months journey some very interesting observations on the physiography of the traversed country. The ethnologists of the Expedition brought back a rich collection, especially from China. The forthcoming volume on the Expedition, prepared by M. Audouin-Dubreuil will be expected with intense interest.

On the occasion of the return of the Citroen Central Asiatic Expedition, Prof. Nicholas de Roerich greeted the Expedition with the following address.