

# Recent Excavations on Andean Plateau

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**L**A. PAZ, Bolivia—Am able to give you the story of some wonderful discoveries just made in the heart of the Bolivian Andes. You may have read of the ruined city of Machu Picchu, found by Dr. Hiram Bingham in the heart of the jungle within four or five days of Cuzco, the capital of the Incas. That is situated in Peru. On the high plateau of Bolivia are the remains of another ancient city not far from La Paz that has been known for generations. Its origin has never been settled, but now out of the ground from under it are coming pottery, relics of gold and copper and the skeletons of human beings that lead scientists here to suppose that it was in existence 3,000 years or more before the first stones of the Pyramids were laid.

This ancient city is known as Tiawanacu. It is twelve miles from Lake Titicaca, and some of its ruins are within a stone's throw of the railway that goes from Guasqui, the Bolivian port on the lake, to La Paz. I stopped there on my way across the plateau.

**Scattered Over Wide Area.**

The ruins are scattered over an area equal to about a dozen 160-acre farms. They consist of the remains of massive walls, of terraced mounds, and of the great edifices sometimes called the Temples. The latter building covers four acres and it was made of blocks of black stone thirty inches in thickness. The stones are much like those of the ancient buildings I saw in Cuzco. They were fitted together without mortar and that so closely that I found it impossible to insert a knife blade between them. The stones are cut with absolute regularity, and we have no modern buildings which are more closely fitted together.

As it is now, most of the structures of Tiawanacu have been carried away, and it is only the mighty pillars that are scattered here and there and the cut stones remaining from the old buildings that indicate the wonders of the past. The temple itself was in the shape of a rectangle, 465 feet long by 385 feet wide. Its outlines are marked by massive blocks of red sandstone, some of which are still erect. They evidently formed the part of a rough wall and they supported a platform of earth that rose eight feet above the country surrounding. On the eastern side of this platform was a lower terrace, along the edge of which were great stone pilasters ranging in height from nine to fourteen feet and in width from two to four feet. There were ten of these. All except one stand there today.

**Some Wonderful Finds.**

Near this platform is what Squier called the palace. I refer to Ephraim George Squier, who went to Peru more than fifty years ago as a special commissioner from the United States and described these ruins in his book, entitled, "Incidents of Travel in the Land of the Incas." When I was in Bolivia fifteen years ago I went over Squier's discoveries with Prof. Adolfo Bandoler, who was then working for the New York museum, and he told me that Squier's deductions were in the main correct. Squier made some excavations under the temple. He heard from the Indians that there were large vaults beneath it, and that an underground passage led from there to Cuzco. He dug under the foundations, but found no vault or passage. The discoveries recently made are the work of Dr. Otto Buchtein, the director of the National museum of La Paz. He has made some wonderful finds in the earth not far from the temple and in the country about. The museum here is full of them and the work is still going on. I shall describe his discoveries further on in this letter, giving a talk with Dr. Buchtein.

**Lived Eight Thousand Years Ago.**

But first let me tell you what is still left of Tiawanacu. The ruins are accessible to all, and some may be seen through the windows of the cars passing through on the way to La Paz. There are remarkable ruins right at the railway station and in the town that surrounds it. The town consists of mud huts, some of which have doorways made of stone brought from the ruins and set into the walls. I saw Aymara Indians sitting in these stone doorways and others standing as they went in and out. The huts are often plastered with mud, and upon the thatched roofs are wooden crosses, showing the religious nature of the people. The town has a Catholic church that has stones of the ancient city in its walls, and in front of the church is a cross on a pedestal made of such stones. There are carved idols on each side of the gateway that leads into the church. They all came from Tiawanacu, whose people lived 8,000 years ago and worshiped we know not what.

The main ruins of Tiawanacu lie on a broad level plain, situated about a half-mile south of the railroad. They are scattered over the plain, some of them half buried and others lying well up out of the tufts of grass and other low plants that cover it. The region is the picture of desolation. The Andes are in plain view, but outside them there is nothing but the mud huts in the distance and the alpacas, llamas and sheep, watched by Aymara shepherds, spinning or knitting as they mind their flocks.

**Doorway of Solid Stone.**

One of the striking features of the ruins is a great doorway cut out of one solid block of stone. This is fitted into the walls of an old cemetery. The block is broken at one corner, but it originally was a great stone six feet eight inches thick, and twice as tall as a man. The doorway that was cut through its center is four and a half feet high and almost three feet in width. The stone above the door is beautifully carved with figures that seem to be Egyptian, and over the doorway is a central figure in high relief. Some of the figures evidently represent kings, for each holds a scepter and some have crowns on their heads. They have human bodies, feet and hands.

Others of the stones are enormous. I saw one thirty-six feet long and seven feet thick, and another which is twenty-six feet long, sixteen feet wide and six feet in thickness. Some of the blocks are of sandstone and others are trachyte, dark in color and exceedingly hard. The latter are beautifully carved and polished.

Among the most remarkable features of the ruins are the stone idols, dug out since Squier's time and made to stand upright. Some of these idols are of gigantic size. Their bodies are as big as a flour barrel, and they are more than eight feet in height. The faces have thick lips, and the heads are so cut that they would be a delight to the cubists of today. They are all angles, even to the eyes, noses and lips.

Some of the smaller idols have been brought to La Paz and are in the center of the National museum here. It is about three feet in height, and is artistically carved. I took a picture of myself standing beside it, and also of Dr.



Aymara Indian sitting in a stone doorway

Dr. Buchtein head of the La Paz Museum who is excavating at Tiawanacu

"She was a young woman 1500 years old"

Buchtein, the director of the museum, who has been making the excavations.

**Collection is Large.**

It was in company with Dr. Buchtein that I went through the museum and examined the objects he has just dug from the ground. The collection is large, covering many tables and filling several rooms. It consists of pottery of all sizes, from vases of three or four gallons down to the little cups the size of half an egg-shell. Some of the objects are almost Etruscan in their decoration. Other pieces have hieroglyphs that make one think of Chinese or Japanese characters. Much of the terra cotta is as fine as porcelain, and, when tapped upon, it gives forth the same sound. The bowls are of the color of terra cotta, and there are beautifully shaped cups, each of which would hold one or two quarts. The collection altogether numbers thousands of pieces, and it has all been excavated in the last two or three months.

Dr. Buchtein believes that the pottery of his latest excavations dates back to 8,000 years ago, or to more than 6,000 years before Christ. If he is correct, he has found the oldest records of civilization now in existence. He tells me he does not think that Tiawanacu was the work of the red race, and that he believes that it dates far back of that time to a white race who inhabited this part of the Andes. In this belief he is not alone. A scientific traveler who recently passed through here has brought forth the idea that the Bolivian plateau was once settled by the ancient Phoenicians. This man claims that the gold of Ophir came from the Andes. He says the Bible states that it took three years for the ships to make the journey to the mines; and this is borne out by 1 Kings, tenth chapter, twenty-second verse. As the navigation of those ancient times would certainly have taken as much as three years for a ship to have passed out of the Mediterranean, through the Strait of Gibraltar and across the Atlantic ocean to the west coast of this continent and back. The verse referred to says they brought back gold and also silver, ivory, ebony, and peacocks. There is no ivory in South America and the peacocks come from India. As to areas there are plenty of monkeys in the lowlands of this continent, but as to the almond tree, I know it not.

**Some Ancient Implements.**

The excavations of Dr. Buchtein include many finds of implements of stone and also some of gold, copper and bronze. The first belong to the stone age, and the latter are said to date before the times of the Incas. As to the pottery, I saw much that seemed to indicate an Egyptian origin. Many of the cups and bowls have the shape of a cat. They made me think of Bubastis, the famous seat of the worship of the cat in the days of the Pharaohs. The ancient city was situated in the land of Goshen, not far from where Zagazig now stands, and right on the route the Egyptian took when they came down into Egypt for corn. Bubastis had many cat goddesses and its chief goddess was a cat-headed woman. It had a cat cemetery, situated on the west side of the town. This was crammed with cat mummies, many of which had been incased in cat-shaped cases of wood and bronze. I photographed some of the cat-bowls from Tiawanacu, and their heads are lifelike.

Dr. Buchtein found skeletons of llamas among these cat-pots. He thinks the ancient citizens of Tiawanacu may have worshiped llamas in connection with the jaguar, which has a head like a cat. Some of the heads are as big as my two llamas, the vases being covered with spots like those of a leopard or jaguar. Other vases show the heads of the condor, the great vulture eagle of the high Andes.

**Spoons of Terra Cotta.**

Among the implements are spoons of terra cotta and of bone. There are knives of bone, some of which are sharp, and also narrow points of obsidian. There are also bone rings, and bone needles of various kinds. There are stone pipes drilled out of a rock as hard as quartz. How the people were able to drill the holes without steel or other metal is unknown. All of these finds have come from

within ten feet of the surface of the earth. The soil above where they were found is sand and Dr. Buchtein says this indicates that the city of Tiawanacu was for a long time covered with water, and that this was the cause of the wonderful preservation of the articles. Among the discoveries is a large number of skeletons of human beings. The bones were scattered about, and the jawbones were often a yard away from the skulls to which they belonged. While in the museum I saw thirty or forty perfect skulls, which were practically the same as within a few years after the death of their owners, now more than 8,000 years ago. Those skulls are different from any now known. They are of enormous size, and they indicate a race of giants. They slope back from the eyes almost to the crown, reminding one of the flatheads of the Indians of North America. The jawbones are heavy, and the teeth, after their rest of eight centuries, are still almost perfect. It seemed strange to look at the grinning molars and to peer into the eyeless sockets of these men of 8,000 years ago.

**Buried with Gold.**

Dr. Buchtein says that he found the most of the pottery near the skeletons, and that there were two pots beside each skull of a man or woman, and one pot only beside the skull of a child.

The skulls of the women had plates of gold upon their foreheads. There are many of the plates in the museum. They are of pure gold, but as thin as paper. Each bears the image of a man, showing that the weaker sex worshiped the stronger 8,000 years before the advent of the militant suffragette. The features of the image are beautifully marked; they look as though the gold leaf had been pounded or pressed upon a die made for the purpose. They were probably fastened to the skulls by strings.

In talking with Manuel Vicente Bolivian, who is now collecting the exhibit this country will have at the San Francisco exposition, I have learned that many of these ancient objects will be taken to Bolivia and shown there. Dr. Bolivian says in his correspondence with the University of Yale as to its sending a scientific expedition here to investigate the ancient civilization of Tiawanacu and certain other archaeological wonders of the Bolivian plateau. Dr. Buchtein says that many other parts of Bolivia have evidences of prehistoric races, and that the museum will gladly welcome foreigners who wish to investigate them. He thinks, however, that what is found should in whole or in part be given to the National museum of La Paz.

**Many Curious Objects.**

The museum has many objects outside those I have described. It has huge stone figures from Tiawanacu. One head that stands on the floor of the court is more than a yard high, and its eyes are as big around as a dinner plate. The figure is Assyrian in its carving. The doctor thinks it represents the head of a warrior.

Among the most interesting features of the museum is a large collection of mummies, recently discovered not far from the line of the Arica-La-Paz railroad, which last year was first opened to traffic. They come from near Calaroto, a station about fifteen miles from the road. They are supposed to be the mummies of the Chulipes, who lived before the time of the Incas. Each mummy is incased in a basket or bag of fiber, with a window in its side, out of which sticks the head of the mummy. The material of the bag appears to be a pine-apple fiber, and it is firm and strong, notwithstanding its great age. The threads are evenly twisted, and each bag is woven to the exact size and shape of the mummy within.

**In Striding Posture.**

The mummies were buried in a sitting posture, with their legs so doubled that the heels kicked the thighs and the knees met the chin. The arms were clasped back of the neck. I saw scores of these mummies, and upon my asking the doctor to be allowed to make some photographs, he aided me in carrying several out into the court. The one that I most tenderly handled was that of a young woman. She was at least 1,500 years old,

# No Progress with Mohamedans Unless Women Are Educated

**ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 1.**—The Mohammedan women in the light of today was discussed at the Mohammedan congress which has been in session here, and her course applauded when Akmed Kuramshin, a member of the first Duma, declared that without the education of women it would be quite impossible to effect progress among Mohammedans.

"If certain old mullahs continue to proclaim from in the mosques that women have no need of education," he said, "they simply speak ignorance."

The Akmed went so far as to say every woman over 20 years of age should have a vote on questions affecting the community at large. In regard to matrimony he contended that both parties should be asked before the marriage ceremony whether they were voluntarily entering into the contract. This, he said, would eventually put a stop to the idea that Mohammedan women were so many chattels.

The congress has been attended by over forty delegates from European and Asiatic Russia, and has been sitting in St. Petersburg with the authorization of the minister of the interior. The meetings have reflected a strong determination among the Moslem subjects of Emperor Nicholas to uphold their religious, social and educational rights. The establishment in St. Petersburg of a centralized authority which should look after the interests of the Mohammedan religion throughout the Russian empire was regarded by many speakers as an urgent need.

# PLEISTOCENE FOSSILS FOUND UNDER LONDON

**LONDON, Aug. 1.**—Authorities at the South Kensington Museum of Natural History have determined that the fossil bones of a lion's leg and of a mammoth's hip which was recently discovered thirty-five feet below the surface of Fleet street belong to the Pleistocene period. These prehistoric relics were found within thirty yards of the spot where the skull of a woolly rhinoceros, bones of the reindeer and of the extinct great ox and horse were found several years ago.

It is common enough to find Roman relics when excavating in the center, or "city," of London, but fossils of the Pleistocene age are so rare as to be of striking interest to the geologists. F. E. Bedford, F. R. S., answers the question as to how these animals made their way into the British isle.

"During the period of the earth's history which saw these great beasts grazing on the plains of northern Europe and Asia," he said, "England was not divorced from the continent, and the Thames flowed on to join the Rhine."

# DOMESTIC SERVICE IS BIG INDUSTRY IN BRITAIN

**LONDON, August 1.**—There are more people engaged in domestic service in England and Wales than in any other industry or service in the two countries. Domestic indoor servants, according to the census returns, number 1,302,438, of whom 47,706 are men. Exclusive of domestic service, agriculture affords employment to more persons than any other single industry or service, there being 1,229,556 farm workers, of whom 94,961 are women. In coal mining 211,236 persons are engaged, including 37,180 women, who nowadays are employed in the lighter work on the surface, such as sorting. Figures for other industries are: building 57,942; cotton manufacturing 628,856, of whom more than half are women; railway services 642,989; engineering and machine making, iron-founding and boiler-making 519,226, while there are 588,061 persons engaged in local government services, including the police.

# Simple Home Remedy for Wrinkled Faces

Thousands are spending fortunes in frantic efforts to remove the signs of premature age from their faces. Such women will gladly pay almost any amount of money for worthless wrinkle removers, of which there are many.

If they only knew that the most effective remedy imaginable is a simple, harmless face wash which can be made up at home in less than a minute. They have only to get an ounce of powdered saxolite and half a pint of witch-hazel at the drug store and mix the two. Apply this daily as a refreshing lotion. The effect is almost magical. Even after the first treatment a marked improvement is noticed and the face has a snug, firm feeling that is most pleasing. Advertisement.

# London Has Only One Woman Cabby

**LONDON, Aug. 1.**—England, according to census returns just published, has but one woman cab driver. She has held a license for twenty-six years and can be seen every day outside Rembridge station, Isle of Wight. The holder of this license bears the truly British name of Mrs. John Bull. Her uniform consists of a neat blue skirt and coat and a hard bowler hat. For funerals and weddings she assumes the added dignity of a top hat.

Mrs. Bull started with a pony and gig, and from the earnings of that provided herself with a horse and smart landau. It is her boast that she grooms her own horse and can harness him and be in attendance at any residence in the parish within ten minutes of receiving orders. Mrs. Bull gained her knowledge of horses while in the service of Sir Donald Currie and afterwards on a ranch in Texas.

With the business of cab driver she competes with the big breeding and may frequently be seen taking stock to Newport market. She attends market personally and strikes her own bargains with the dealers.

# English Strikers Returning to Work

**LONDON, Aug. 1.**—The big lockout of builders, which has held up building operations in London for months, is slowly crumbling without any definite settlement, and the army of ironworkers, masons, carpenters and other men are returning to their work.

The lockout arose from a number of sectional strikes, the men demanding better wages and shorter hours. Negotiations went on for week after week without any result, except for the members of the big and wealthy trades unions, who secured better terms and have now returned to work, leaving the smaller unions, which refused all terms offered by the contractors, to shift for themselves. As these smaller unions are nearly bankrupt, the members are expected to follow the example of the more wealthy unions.

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