

AYMARA TYPE OF HEAD DEFORMATION IN THE UNITED STATES

THE "Aymara" type of head deformation was produced by the application of pressure by a circular band passing over the forehead and under the occiput in the newborn infant. It was practised extensively by the Aymara people of Peru and Bolivia, radiating from the Andes to the west coast, towards Chile, and up to the Atlantic coast in Argentina.

A deformation of the same fundamental type, but somewhat different in details, was practised so far as hitherto known in only one spot in North America, namely on Vancouver Island; no specimens bearing plain traces of it were ever recorded or known of from any other part of the northern continent.

In 1919, the U. S. National Museum received from Mr. M. C. Long, of Kansas City, Missouri, an adult female skull which had been found alongside the Missouri River "in rip-rap work" along the Missouri-Pacific tracks, near Lexington, Missouri. This skull, which is considerably mineralized, presents unmistakable traces of a moderate circular frontal compression, with a medium bulge above this compression, a secondary broad post-coronal depression, and some flattening of the lower part of the occiput—in other words a characteristic form of a moderate "Aymara" deformation.

On January 17, this year, the National Museum received from Mr. R. S. Knowlson, of Kansas City, the remains of a female Indian skull found under an overhanging cliff and in front of the entrance to a small cave near Noel, Missouri. This skull, which is not mineralized, shows also plain traces of a moderate "Aymara" deformation. The grade and type of the deformity are much like those in the skull from Lexington. Both differ in secondary details from the type found in Vancouver. Noel is about 180 miles south from Lexington.

The two skulls may precede in age the late prehistoric and historic Indians of Missouri, who practised no deformation. It would be premature to speculate on their identity; their discovery, however, in these regions is highly interesting and may prove of importance.

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SCIENCE AND COMMERCIALIZED ATHLETICS

PROBABLY no member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will dissent from the opinion that it is at times desirable to scrutinize the use of words and titles in common use and to attempt to follow their legitimate meanings and implications.

Is our "Association for the Advancement of Science" a passive or an active one? Is it restricted or comprehensive in its policy? Is it superficial or fundamental in its scope? What is the meaning of "advancement" as an object of its existence?

In this connection "advancement" means to me six things: first, improvement of environmental conditions for scientific work (anywhere and everywhere); second, increase in the number of competent scientific workers; third, increase in the usefulness (beneficial results) of science to the whole people; fourth, increase in the influence of science in human affairs; fifth, accumulation and intelligent use of funds for scientific purposes; sixth, promotion of mutual aid and mutual understanding amongst scientific workers in all lines with a view to substantial unification of the scientific world.

Again and again in the past twenty years some scientist (not to mention many other people) has recorded a protest against the growing menace of *commercialized* athletics in our educational institutions. Such protests have appeared in various scientific publications as well as in other places and many of them have also been delivered before scientific meetings. In *SCIENCE* for May 19, 1922, appeared a masterpiece of such protest from the pen of Professor Edward G. Mahin of Purdue University. I suppose that every member of our association knows the truth of his assertions and that almost all endorse his very moderate views and conclusions.

As a matter of fact Professor Mahin distinctly understated the case in two ways. In the first place he did not make distinct the point that the ordinary student is frequently or constantly harassed by demands for money for the use of the parasitic or predatory sporting element and that he is even more frequently disturbed by demands upon his time for "rooting" and other "support of the team."