

Lake Superior iron and copper districts, each of about ten days' duration—and two transcontinental trips, each of about thirty-five days.

A circular is now being prepared giving more detailed information. This will be sent to all those who received the first circular and to others interested who request it from the Secretary, Sixteenth International Geological Congress, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

### THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF PREHISTORIC RESEARCH

THE American School of Prehistoric Research, of which Dr. George Grant MacCurdy, of Yale University, is director, has been carrying on excavations in Palestine for three seasons jointly with the British School of Archaeology at Jerusalem. At present (May, 1931) they are digging in caves near Athlit, at the foot of Mount Carmel, with very gratifying results.

The sites include Mugharet-el-Wad, Mugharet-es-Schrool, Mugharet-et-Tabon and Mugharet-el-Kebara. The last is at Ziekron Yacob and is proving to be exceptionally rich. It was opened this season, so that its complete sequence of cultures has not yet been uncovered. In the deposits containing a culture known as Mesolithic—older than the Neolithic and younger than the Paleolithic they have already found a mass burial of eight or ten interments. These duplicate in many respects the one found at Mugharet-el-Wad last season. Near the skeletons was a cache of 150 bone beads. Mesolithic microliths are very abundant. Objects of bone are also abundant and well preserved. Many harpoons have also been found.

The prize specimen is a complete haft in bone of a knife or sickle twelve inches in length. The animal represented in the round and terminating the handle is probably a goat. The longitudinal groove for insetting the microliths is too narrow for any but very small ones. The decorated portion of a similar haft in bone was found at Mugharet-el-Wad two years ago.

Most important of all is the skull of a Neandertal child found embedded in breccia of a Mousterian deposit. The find was made by Mr. Theodore D. McCown, representing the American School. This is the third skull of a Neandertal child discovered to date: the first by Henri Martin at La Quina (Charente) during the war; the second by Miss Dorothy Garrod in the rock shelter of Devil's Tower at Gibraltar in 1926. Miss Garrod is in charge of the joint excavations near Athlit. Mr. McCown is a graduate of the University of California and was with Dr. MacCurdy in Europe last summer as a student of the American School of Prehistoric Research.

### SUMMER MEETING AND TOUR OF THE AMERICAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE American Phytopathological Society will hold its third annual summer tour and conference from July 28 to 31, under the immediate direction of Drs. H. W. Anderson, Leslie Pierce, M. W. Gardner and C. T. Gregory.

Assembling on July 28 at Cairo, Illinois, the party will move early on the twenty-ninth along U. S. Route No. 1, visiting the Ozark fruit and vegetable districts where the control of plant diseases will be noted, as well as the nut industry of the region. Original chestnut varieties, the Latham red raspberry in a southern habitat, and the peach harvest will be among the interesting features of the first day's trip, ending at Carbondale, Illinois.

From Carbondale, the party on the second day will proceed to Vincennes, Indiana. *En route*, the famous Johnson County fruit region, the new wilt-resistant water-melon varieties developed by the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, and the old Rappite settlement of New Harmony will be visited.

The third and last day will be spent in and around Vincennes, where the federal government's experimental control of the oriental fruit moth and bacterial spot of peaches will be the center of attraction.

Among the special features of interest to scientists, aside from the regular diseases of the region, will be the unusual effects of the extremely low temperatures of the winter of 1929-1930 and those attributable to the 1930 drought.

Besides periodic discussions and conferences on the various exhibitions seen by the travelers, specialists on the soils, entomology and horticulture of the visited region, associated with the Illinois and Indiana Agricultural Experiment Stations, will accompany the party to explain those phases of the work more strictly allied to their respective fields.

For those not driving cars will be furnished. Dr. H. W. Anderson, of the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana, should be addressed for further particulars and arrangements.

### IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR R. W. WOOD

AS has been stated in *SCIENCE* the honorary doctorate of philosophy has been conferred by the University of Berlin on Professor R. W. Wood, chairman of the department of physics of the Johns Hopkins University. The diploma was presented to Professor Wood at the German Embassy in Washington, with addresses by the German ambassador and Professor Henning, of the Reichsanstalt for Physics and Technology. Professor Henning said;

Owing to a fortunate circumstance I have been assigned by the Faculty of Philosophy of Friedrich Wil-