

## LOCAL FACILITTING

Just how much did the great Glacial age contribute toward changing the topography of our local landscape?

We're sure the Great Ice mass did not cover this part of Wyoming, but it did in an indirect way produce certain recognizable phenomena, which are directly associated with these massive fingers of ice which extended down from the Arctic regions during Pleistocene times.

During the Pleistocene which covers a period dating back some 1,000,000 years, North America experienced four periods of intense cold called Glacial periods, and these were separated by intervals of warmth called Interglacial periods which account for the advance and retreat of the ice masses.

As all areas were not covered with ice, they often had Pluvial periods or increased precipitation, which accounts for the large glaciers which had formed on our Big Horns.

Our Big Horn mountains being one of the youngest ranges on our continent were still covered over with the strata of limestone, earth, etc., which had bulged up as the mountains raised beneath it. The area around Cloud's Peak is thought to have had an altitude in excess of 20,000 feet at this time, which, with the increased precipitation and frigid air it was a perfect place for glaciers to form.

As these glaciers built up they started to move, and in doing so they picked up and carried millions of tons of debris with them, then about this time one of the Interglacial or warm periods would begin and this mass of ice and debris would melt, and the torrents of water rushing to the low lands carried this debris with it and deposited it along the foot of the Big Horns. As the water gradually lost its volume and velocity due to another Glacial period starting to advance, the water would cut a channel or valley thru this pluvial deposit that it had just recently built, and in so cutting its valley it left a distinct Terrace.

By repeating this procedure each Glacial advance and retreat our Big Horns were worn down to about their present size and we have four distinct terraces to be seen west of Sheridan along Big Goose Creek Valley.

"Look For Yourself."

G. D. Sweem

## GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH THE DUMONT'S

Mr. Albert Dumont, who is a new member along with his daughter, Susanne, is an instructor at the Northern Wyoming Community College teaching such tongue twisters as Zoology, Physiology, Anatomy and Bacteriology.

His boyhood was spent on a farm in Iowa, and after moving to Wyoming he worked on various ranches. Later he attended Iowa State Teachers College and University of Wyoming where he received his degree. He has also attended Montana State College.

During the war he spent four years in New Mexico as a scientific aide to the Department of Agriculture. It was during this time that he became interested in archaeology as New Mexico is so rich in Indian artifacts.

Mr. Dumont likes the outdoors and his hobbies are hunting, fishing, and botony.

Susanne Dumont, who is a junior at Sheridan High School enjoyed Dr. Bentzens talk on archaeology so much that she rushed home and persuaded her father to join the Wyoming Archaeological Society with her, and since he was already interested in archaeology this wasn't hard to do.

Susanne, being her fathers daughter, is quite an outdoors girl and loves to hunt, bagging a four-point buck last fall. She also goes duck hunting with her father but isn't allowed to shoot.

She plans on becoming a nurse and will attend NWCC her first two years.

Incidentally Susanne likes the chemise!

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## MONTEZUMA CASTLE

Montezuma castle, a cliff dwelling built by Pueblo Indians, is located in Arizona 5 miles north of Camp Verde, 69 miles south of Flagstaff and 65 miles east of Prescott. It may be reached by U. S. 89 Alternate from Flagstaff via Oak Creek Canyon and Sedona and may be reached by State route 69 and 79 from Phoenix. It is well worth the time to stop and see this unique ruin.

The Indian people who built these ruins were the "Sinagua" (the same people as lived in Walnut Canyon). The Sinagua (meaning Waterless) were originally farmers from near the San Francisco Peaks who moved into the Verde valley in the 12th century after a drought had forced them to leave. Beaver Creek in the Verde valley made an ideal place to settle, for streams furnished water for crop irrigation; soft limestone cliffs weathered into caves could be used for storage and homes; and the climate was mild.

About 700 years ago this cliff dwelling was under construction, perhaps in answer to a need for a high lookout and location which would be easy to defend.

In 1953 the Wyoming Archaeological Society was organized with a charter membership of twenty-one members. There is now a total membership of sixty-five members including three honorary members. They are: Mr. Lewis Steegee, Dr. William T. Mulloy, and Mr. Joe Medicine Crow. New members are David Sowada, Robert Landeen, and Mr. R. D. McCurdy.

Pete Catron, who was a charter member of our society, recently passed away. He had a very valuable and interesting collection of artifacts which he acquired in Alaska.

In our last issue we mentioned that a new cave site had been made available to our society. It is located in a pasture near Ulm in Sheridan County, owned by Mr. Fred Kaufmann, and we will honor his co-operation in allowing us to investigate this cave by naming it the Kaufmann Cave. Present plans are to complete the mapping before July 1st, then to have the actual digging and screening of the cave floor on the 4th, 5th and 6th of July, (Friday, Saturday and Sunday), so as many of our members as possible may participate. We shall include a map of the cave location with the June issue so that members can find it.

More lectures about our society and its work have been given by your president to the following groups: Sheridan Motor Court Association, Kivans Club and Rotary Club of Sheridan, and the Science Club of Northern Wyoming Community College.

A great deal of interest on the part of the general public is showing up relative to our plans on investigating the famous "Medicine Wheel" in the Big Horn Mountains. Many non-members have asked whether it will be permissible for them to visit our camp and observe our operations, and we tell them that visitors are welcome both to our regular meetings and our field excavations.

We are still looking for a good new or used transit as a part of our permanent society equipment for use in mapping and contouring. Anyone having any "leads", please call Ray Bentzen.

Embers out