

By Mrs. Gladys Coletta

THE BURIED PAST

by Henri-Paul Eydoux, 192pp. 1966. Frederick G. Praeger, Publishers, New York.

Keat's *Ode On A Grecian Urn* takes on a deeper meaning after one reads *The Buried Past* by Henri-Paul Eydoux, one of France's most popular writers on archeology. The Golden Age of Greece is depicted on the richly sculptured urn masterpieces recovered from the muddy waters of Spina, the Etruscan city with Greek inhabitants of twenty-five centuries ago. From the solid gold vases uncovered in Bulgaria to

the necklaces made of amber from the Baltic and alabaster jewelry from the East, the author reveals a story of primitive man in all his splendor.

At times the dazzle gives way to accounts of cruel horror when in 1921 a sacred enclosure at Carthage was found with thousands of funeral urns packed with small burnt bones, mute evidence of a monstrous holocaust of child sacrifice to the god Baal. The ring on the corpse of a woman's finger in the magnificent tomb at Saint-Denis, France, bore the inscription *Arnegundis* - a vital clue

to the fact that there was actually a Queen *Arnegundis* in the sixth century of Merovingian history. And the discovery in a cave in a French village of a small statuette, later called the *Venus of Lespugue*, proved that primitive man had a concern for art.

Therefore, the author states that even the smallest vestige found in excavations is important as it may be a vital clue to the mode of life of ancient man--his family, his society, his work, his art, and his religious aspirations. From the least to the greatest, history can thus be reconstructed. One universal fact that these discoveries have substantiated is the desire of prehistoric man (along with that of his modern brother) to be remembered after the spark of life is gone. From the legendary queen of the Sahara desert to the mango of Palenque, Mexico, both of whom were given magnificent monuments for their tombs, we find that (according to Thomas Gray):

"Ev'n from the tomb the voice of nature cries, Ev'n in our ashes live their wonted fires".

'Land Of Oz' Earns Award

RALEIGH - One of North Carolina's newest developments has been named the recipient of a national award. The Land of Oz, developed by Carolina Caribbean Corporation atop Beech Mountain near Banner Elk, has won the annual Washington, D. C., Daily News Award for the year's outstanding tourist attraction.

The Land of Oz was "the hands down winner", according to Myron Glaser, long-time manager of Resort and Travel News for the Scripps-Howard newspaper.

"The word 'exquisite' has almost gone out of usage," Glaser said. "The Land of Oz should bring it back. We've never seen a more beautiful natural setting nor a finer marriage of a place and an idea. It is truly an adventure, imaginative and unspoiled."

The decision to give the award to the Land of Oz was made even before the park's balloon ride, by which visitors may leave Emerald City, was completed. That ride opened July 3.

The Land of Oz, three years in the planning by Charlotte designer Jack Pentec, recreates the L. Frank Baum classic, "The Wizard of Oz", and the 1948 MGM movie in real life among the age-old cliffs and twisted trees of Beech Mountain's pinnacles.

Composer Alec Wilder of New York who, with Charlotte's Loonis McGlohon wrote music for the themed park, visited Oz and wired his own accolade.

"My profound gratitude," he said, "to all of you for conclusively proving that magic and joy, beauty and love still exist."

The park, located 17 miles from Boone, will operate daily through Labor Day and then on weekends through October 25.

Trucks To Be Checked

Trucks hauling gravel, sand, dirt and other loose material would do well to make sure their loads are secured before they travel on the highways of North Carolina in the future.

Motor Vehicle Commissioner Joe W. Garrett said today that as a result of "a substantial increase recently in the number of complaints from the motoring public" he has asked the State Highway Patrol to "crack down" on violators of the state law requiring that loads be secured.

According to Garrett, the law provides that "No vehicle shall be driven on any highway unless such vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent any of its load from dropping, sifting, leaking or otherwise escaping therefrom..."

The Commissioner said, "A truck that fails to secure its load represents a genuine threat to other vehicles on the highway. It not only causes damage to other vehicles, but, in many instances, contributes to accidents. We are going to do everything possible to minimize the problem."

Highway Patrol Commander Edwin C. Guy said the Patrol made 476 arrests during 1969 for violations of the "failing to secure load" law. He expects an increase in the number of arrests this year.

"We are definitely increasing our surveillance," Guy said, "and we will not hesitate to make arrests when violations are detected."

Decoration Service

There will be an old fashioned memorial and decoration service at the Humdale Memorial Cemetery all day Sunday, August 9th, dinner on the ground, and the public is cordially invited. The Little Ivy Trio, Pleasant Valley Quartet, Bee Log Quartet, and the Living for Jesus Quartet and others will take part in this all day service. Ed Ball, WKYK Radio at Burnsville, will be Master of Ceremonies.

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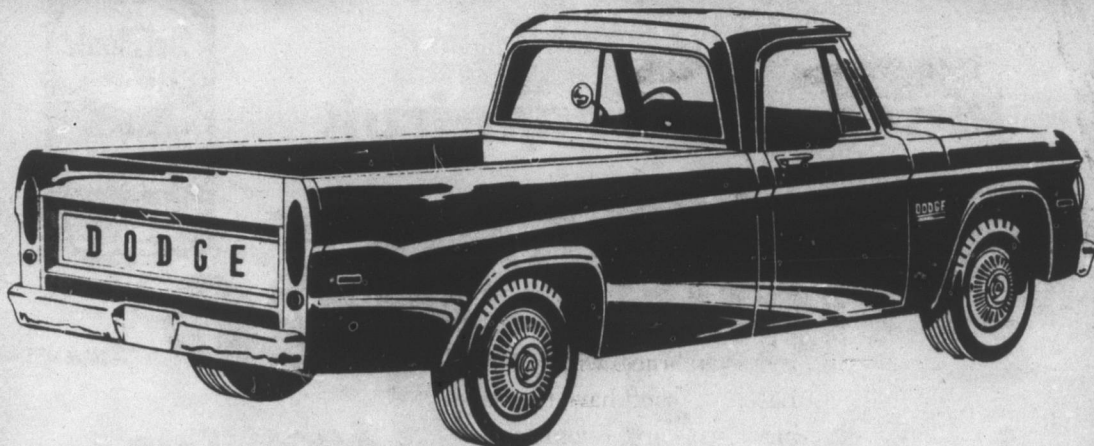
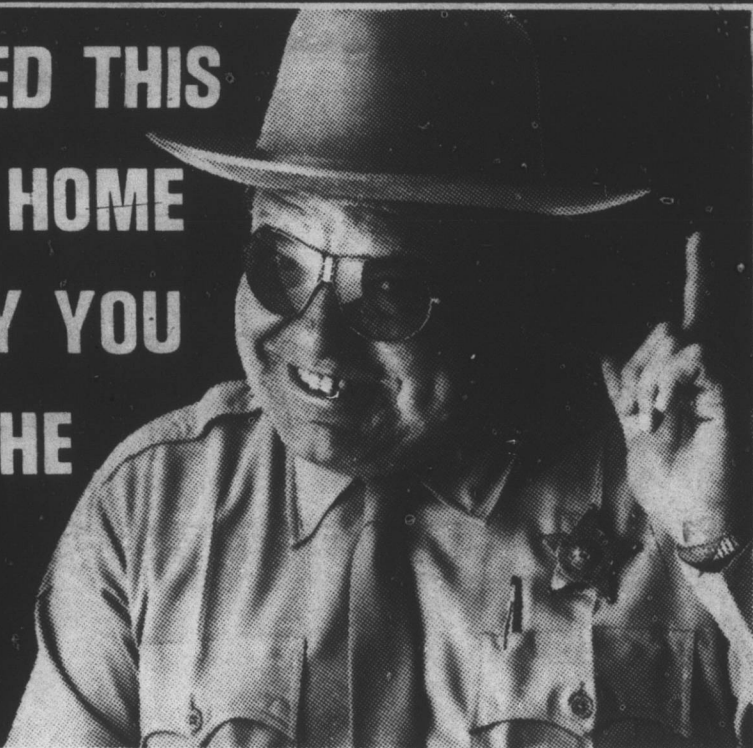
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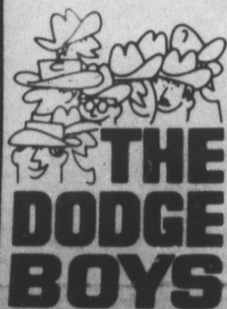
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