

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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FLOOD NEWS

The most memorable flood in history is supposed to have happened upwards of 6,000 years ago in Mesopotamia, where two great rivers, the Euphrates and the Tigris, have been responsible for many floods, but for only one that has impressed itself indelibly upon the memory of mankind. The discovery near the site of "Ur of the Chaldees" of an 8-foot layer of mud left by this long-ago inundation was announced in March, 1929. Dr. Woolley, in charge of the Ur excavations, unhesitatingly pronounced this layer to be a tangible memento of the Deluge described in Babylonian inscriptions and in the Book of Genesis.

Since the original discovery the flood layer has been found at other points in the outskirts of the ancient city, and in one place it is 11 feet thick. Beneath it are the artifacts of the race that the Deluge is supposed to have wiped out, with the exception of one family, whose head -- the Uta-Napishtim of the cuneiform inscriptions and the Noah of the Bible -- had the foresight to build a vessel in which to take refuge.

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