

## New Star is Destroying Itself By Burst of Light

EXPLOSION SAID TO BE AS BRIGHT AS 10,000,000 SUNS—WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE SUN ACTED SIMILARLY.

Los Angeles.—Discovery of a new "super-nova" star of enormous proportions in the constellation Virgo was revealed by Dr. Edwin P. Hubble, astronomer at the Mount Wilson Observatory.

Virtually an exploding star, destroying itself by a burst of radiation, the newest discovered portion of the Virgo constellation is one of the most colossal transformations of matter into energy ever observed by man. The new star will probably become known as Nova Virginis.

Spectrograms of the cosmic phenomenon have been taken, for the first time in astronomical history, by Milton U. Humason, assistant to Dr. Hubble, and Dr. Sinclair Smith, spectroscopist. Readable specimens were obtained in both the visible spectrum and the ultra-violet. Astronomers said Nova Virginis exploded with a burst of brilliance equal to 10,000,000 of the earth's sun.

Should the sun undergo a similar transformation, its planets, including the earth, would become clouds of hot gases rushing into outer space as soon as the radiation wave swept across the solar system, it was pointed out.

The super-nova just discovered burst and became a "star-suicide" 7,000,000 years ago, astronomers said. Because of its extreme distance from the earth, the light of the explosion required that length of time to reach the limits of our visibility. Even now, the star is merely a tiny point of light in Mount Wilson's huge telescope, the largest in the world.

This is the sixth super-nova which astronomers have found in Virgo, the last being reported in 1926. It is the first that has undergone detailed study, final

reports of which will not be completed for several weeks. The last super-nova actually seen was Nova Persei, which was discovered in 1901 by T. O. Anderson. Nova Persei reached a magnitude of zero, making its brilliant light visible to the naked eye in daylight.

Such brilliant light is attributed by one school of astronomers to the collision of two stars, but a more universally accepted theory holds that the star explodes and disintegrates in a wave of radiation.

## Decay Of Timber Is Due To Action Of Chemicals?

New Theory Put Forward By Cardiff Professor.

London.—A new theory of the origin of timber decay was put forward by Dr. E. A. Rudge, of the Technical College, Cardiff, when he lectured at the Timber Exchange here recently.

Whereas attention in the past has been mainly concentrated on micro-organisms, whether bacterial or fungal, Dr. Rudge believes that the essential cause of decay in timber is chemical.

In pursuit of his quest, Dr. Rudge has examined specimens of wood of such varied origins as a centuries-old London conduit, Thames-side foundations believed to date from 1714, wood which has lain for 45 years be-

## NOTED OPERA STAR RETIRES



Metropolitan Opera lost one of its most famous stars when Lucrezia Bori retired after twenty-five years with the organization, an event marked by the presentation of gifts from Edward Johnson, famous Canadian tenor, and now general manager of the M. O. C., and Earl Lewis, treasurer.

neath a blast furnace, and gate posts from country farms.

He has also conducted laboratory experiments in which he has been successful in artificially inducing decay by, as he believes, purely chemical means.

For the initiation of all decay he blames the infiltration of the wood by water containing calcium bicarbonate a near relative of common chalk.

One of the conclusions to which his views, if substantiated, would lead is that any process of seasoning in which wood is exposed to high temperatures and a high moisture content for extended

periods is undesirable; while the use of limewash, whitewash, or paint containing chalk as surface dressing would also be condemned.

While the Government's Forest Products Research Laboratory at Princes Risborough does not, it is understood, agree with Dr. Rudge's conclusions, he is being afforded expert assistance in particular aspects of his work by the laboratory.

Theatre Guest Tickets for MISS GLENNA F. CODY 49 Garden Street, Saint John, N. B.

## Bronze Age Urn Is Found On A Farm Near Kirkoswald

Red Clay Vessel Is At Least 5,000 Years Old, Expert Claims.

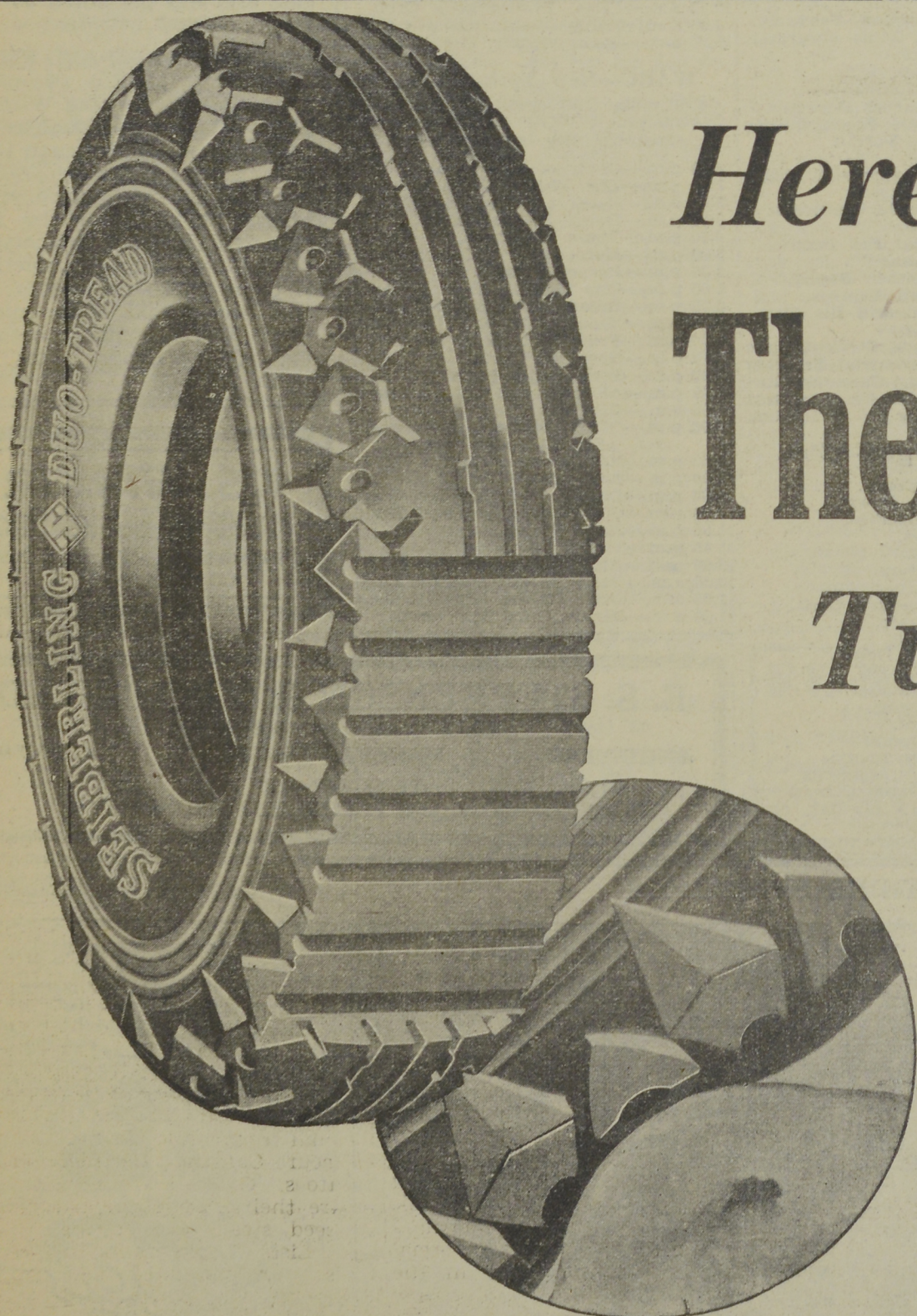
Kirkoswald. — The appearance of a number of human bones in a plowman's furrow has led to an interesting discovery on Kirkland's Farm, Kirkoswald. The police were immediately informed, and when the spot was dug up an urn of crude earthenware was excavated, together with a very large number of broken bones.

John Don, a member of the British Association, states that the vessel is a cinerary urn belonging to the Bronze Age. It consists of a brownish red clay, very friable in its present condition, and Mr Don estimates its age as at least 5,000 and possibly 7,000 years. Its diameter at the top may have been about 13 inches and its height approximately one foot or rather more.

An attempt will be made to put the fragments of the urn into their original position.

The bones are undoubtedly human and of a full-grown person, but they have been so thoroughly broken up that it would be quite impossible to reconstruct the skeleton.

The discovery was made by Thomas Campbell, who is employed by the farmer, Archibald Gray, while he was plowing a field situated near the old Kirkoswald-Culzean packhorse road. The fact that the field is at a good elevation and on rising land, whereby the wind and rainstorms of centuries have gradually removed layers of earth, may offer some explanation of the urn being unearthed at this late date, although the field has been in cultivation for generations.



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