

INDIAN TOMB YIELDS DEAD

Cavern Found in San Pedro Park Quarry Contains Skeletons and Weapons of Supposed Giant Prehistoric Race.

Laborers employed at the city rock quarry situated immediately north of San Pedro park, while blasting yesterday afternoon discovered an Indian tomb filled with skeletons of human beings, Indian war relics, articles of peculiar metal formation, spear and arrow points. While only partially explored, two large boxes of bones have already been taken from the underground vault, sufficient to show that the bodies of at least six men have occupied the cave.

The opening of the cave was located approximately 500 yards in a direct line north of the band stand in San Pedro park. J. P. Lamm, foreman of the quarry, has charge of the articles taken from the cave and will hold them pending a disposition to be made of them by Mayor Callaghan. In the event the city does not care to retain them, they will be turned over to the San Pedro park museum, the management of which has already made a request for them.

Men of Powerful Build.

The cave is believed to have existed many hundred years and, in the minds of those who have examined it, the theory is advanced that the bones taken therefrom represent the remains of a once giant race that lived in the northern portion of the country ages ago. The skulls, jaw bones, collar bones and joints indicate that the race were men of powerful stature. The metal used in the making of the cups that were taken from the cave is to all appearances a rare article, and those who have examined them declare that nothing of its kind is to be found in existence today.

"I am inclined to believe the statement made to me by a visitor who examined the cave yesterday, to the effect that it has existed for ages," stated Mr. Lamm, the foreman. "The rock formation over it must have required ages to complete.

Expect Further Discoveries.

"As soon as I can further blast the cave, I feel confident that still further discoveries and far more important, will be made. I have been greatly bothered by visitors who are clamoring to take possession of the things taken already from the cave, but I will keep them until the mayor decides what shall be done in the matter. They are found on city property and rightly belong to the city. In the event the city does not care to retain them, I will give them to the museum."

Find Many Spears.

The spears, especially the larger ones, which measure about five inches in length, are made of flint, are splendidly chiseled and very sharp. It is believed they were used by the Indians on long lances. Arrow heads were found in profusion. A quantity of red and brown formation is also held by Mr. Lamm. This, it is said, may have been used as paint by the Indians. At least this is the theory advanced by the Mexicans at the quarry. They say the Indian used it for decorating purposes and especially during turbulent times.

Gus Knaup, one of the men now working at the quarry, stated today that he was a soldier of '65 and had camped with many others in that vicinity for many months. At that time there was no knowledge of the existence of such a cave. While the work of blasting has been in progress at the quarry, two or three smaller caverns have been found, but nothing has ever been found in them.

The cave now occupying the attention of the men at the quarry extends from a point about three feet below the surface and is covered entirely with solid rock. It is about 15 feet deep and extends back about 20 feet. Foreman Lamm is certain that it goes still further back and believes that when the blasting affords a further exploration interesting developments will be brought to light.

While it seems that the cavern was used as a sort of burial grounds by the Indians or a pre-historic race, the finding of metal causes the belief that

more rare discoveries will be made and possible treasure may be found.

Teeth Are Preserved.

The bones unearthed were found at regular intervals. The teeth still remain in the jaw bones and are still well preserved. The skulls, however, appear to have become soft with age.

According to Mr. Lamm, further blasting of the cave may take place tomorrow or the day following.