

should bring down the rate of accumulation. So, Alexander's interpretation of this fact is incorrect.

(h) Though an exact molecular kinetic interpretation of the effect of micelle formation of the rate of accumulation is beset with difficulties, general considerations, show that micelle formation should be associated with quick accumulation. It is to be pointed out that micelle formation is due to inter-molecular attractive forces, and it is hindered by inter-ionic repulsion. Inter-ionic repulsion between like ions is also the cause of the electrical potential barrier. Any factor which brings down the inter-ionic repulsion (e.g., addition of salts, increase of the concentration of the paraffin-chain salt) favours micelle formation and at the same time favours quick accumulation at interfaces. Thus the accelerating effect of salts is not due to micelle formation though the latter may take place incidentally. The increase in the rate of accumulation at higher temperatures (though the micelles themselves tend to break down at higher temperatures) is again a point against considering micelle formation as being the cause of quick accumulation.

(k) It may be finally pointed out that the penetration and orientation effects are also likely to consist of steps requiring energy of activation.

Thus the application of the film balance to the study of solutions has given a new and powerful tool in the hands of the physical

chemist. The study has already led to a comprehensive hypothesis for explaining the aging of surface and an extensive investigation in this field is further likely to be valuable in elucidating the several obscure phenomena associated with the surfaces of solutions of capillary active substances.

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DETAILS ABOUT ICE-AGE MAN

THE fossil remains of the 15,000-year-old Tepexpan man are being reassembled at the Smithsonian Institute in U.S.A.

Study thus far shows that this gentleman of the ice age was taller than his modern-day descendants. He is believed to have been about five feet eight inches in height—"well above the average stature of modern Mexican Indians".

The Tepexpan man, believed to be the oldest fossil human being, was dug up last February from an ice-age swamp near the village of Tepexpan, which is not far from Mexico City.

The remains—parts of a skull, jaw bones, arms, legs and a few other odd skeletal pieces—were flown to U.S.A. late in June. They are being reassembled by Dr. Stewart and Dr. Javier Romero of the Mexican National Museum of Anthropology.

Dr. Stewart emphasised that no final conclusions can be drawn since only one Tepexpan man has been found—and he may have

towered above his compatriots. He hopes another of his kind will be found to shed further light on this angle.

The Tepexpan's teeth were also interesting. Although worn down badly, there are no signs of dental cavities or tooth decay and many of his teeth were missing.

His brain appears to have been "about normal" for the modern Indian. His intelligence is also said to have been about the same.

According to the sutures of the skull Tepexpan was in his forties when he met death. It is assumed that he met an unhappy end, since his remains were found face down on what was once the edge of a lake. He may have been killed, but there is nothing now to account for his death.

As for Tepexpan's missing backbone, ribs, shoulder blades and pelvis, they evidently were either destroyed by animals or disintegrated through the years.