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Published approximately every six weeks by THE UNIVERSITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. The purpose of the Newsletter is to disseminate non-technical but reliable information on the results of recent archaeological research, especially discoveries bearing upon the Latter-day Saint scriptures; also knowledge of the archaeological activities and viewpoints of the Society and its members. Subscription by membership in the Society: three dollars per year; or Life Membership, fifty dollars. (Membership also includes subscription to other publications of the Society and of the BYU Department of Archaeology.)

79.0 ROMANS IN ANCIENT AMERICA? The following news item has been taken from Katunob, May, 1961. "Dr. Robert Heine-Geldern in a letter says of the small ceramic head found by Prof. García Payón at Calixtlahuaca in Mexico, "There can be no doubt that it is Roman-Hellenistic of about 200 A. D. " He further states that he has been told of two other Roman items found in Mexico, one in a museum in the U. S. and the other in a German museum. Also, a large hoard of Roman coins was found in Venezuela in recent years. We would like more information about these or any other Roman or presumed Roman items found in the Americas. Of course, Roman finds in the Americas would be of more importance indirectly than directly since the Romans, however many the contacts, did not affect the culture patterns of the Americas. "

79.1 COMPUTERS DECIPHER MAYAN MANUSCRIPTS. This news item also comes from Katunob, May, 1961.

"Moscow Soviet Home Service, Jan, 25, 1961, 040C GMT--L (UNCLASSIFIED.) (Text)

"Recently PRAVDA wrote about the interesting work of some Siberian mathematicians who have applied the rapid electronic computer in deciphering the script of the ancient Mayas, who lived many centuries ago in Central America. Today the paper reports that at the general meeting of the Siberian Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences, a report on this work was made by the director of the Institute of Mathematics, Academician Sobolev.

"He said that in his institute a section of applied cybernetics has been established. Among other problems, the section is studying ancient systems of writing. This is not an accidental or accessory activity; the department sees its task to be to introduce electronic-computing technology into all fields that could make human labor easier.

"Academician Sobolev described in detail how, with the help of electronic machines, the secrets of the manuscripts of the ancient Mayas are being deciphered. Already 40% of all the text material has

been read. For this, about 20 machine-hours were required. Each symbol, sign, and drawing has been translated into mathematical terms. In order to end the study, the academician said, approximately 200 more machine-hours are required. After this the manuscripts of the ancient Mayas, over which science has been struggling for more than a century, can be published. "

79.2 LEAVING FOR RESEARCH IN MEXICO. Joseph T. Bentley, treasurer of the BYU New World Archaeological Foundation, and Ross T. Christensen, chairman of the BYU Department of Archaeology, left February 28 for archaeological field work in southern Mexico.

Mr. Bentley, who is also comptroller of BYU, remained in Mexico only four or five days to help organize the project.

Dr. Christensen will remain until late April making a comprehensive survey of archaeological field work being done in southern Mexico under LDS auspices. He will work in collaboration with Gareth W. Lowe, acting field director of the BYUNWAF, who is a graduate of the BYU Department of Archaeology and a member of the UAS.

79.3 EGYPTIAN FRESCOES. A member of the Society of long standing, Esther Phelps Ainscough, has recently donated to the Department of Archaeology a set of eight large silkscreen reproductions, in color, of Egyptian frescoes, presenting beautiful scenes of everyday life in the Pharaoh's court, as found among ancient Egyptian wall paintings. These are a valuable addition to the exhibit materials now being accumulated for the archaeological museum under development on the ground floor of the Karl G. Maeser Building on the BYU campus.

79.4 ISSUES NEW PRICE LIST. The UAS general secretary-treasurer has announced a revised price list of eight publications which may be purchased at the Society office.

These publications may be ordered by mail from: The University Archaeological Society, 139 Karl G. Maeser Building, Brigham Young University, Provo,

Utah. The new list is reproduced below; in each case, two prices are quoted, the first being the reduced price to Society members and the second the price to non-members or of extra copies to members:

1. Bulletin of the University Archaeological Society, No. 4, March 1953. 52 pp. Contains articles on Joseph Smith and American archaeology, on the Tree of Life as a symbol of Quetzalcóatl-Itzamná, the ancient Life God of Middle America, and on the Lehi Tree-of-Life Stone (see also below, No. 9). Single copy free; \$1.
2. Miscellaneous Papers, No. 19, "Some Views on Archaeology and Its Role at Brigham Young University (A Reprint of Four Essays from the UAS Newsletter). " By Ross T. Christensen. UAS, December, 1960. 23 pp. What archaeology is and how it can be useful to Latter-day Saints in their study of the Scriptures. 10¢; 25¢.
3. UAS, Newsletter, No. 26, March 31, 1955. 6 pp. Photographic expedition headed by Dr. Milton R. Hunter to Izapa, Tikal, Bonampak, and other ruins in Middle America, as described by Otto Done. 10¢; 25¢.
4. UAS Newsletter, No. 27, June 1, 1955. 7 pp. A review by Bruce W. Warren of Hugh Nibley's The World of the Jaredites. Some fundamental considerations having to do with the archaeology of the Book of Ether in the Book of Mormon. 10¢; 25¢.
5. UAS Newsletter, No. 28, August 10, 1955, 7 pp. The 1955 B. Y. U. Archaeological and Cultural Tour of Mexico, which visited Teotihuacán, Cholula, Monte Albán, and other sites north of Tehuantepec. 10¢; 25¢.
6. UAS Newsletter, No. 67, July 7, 1960. 7 pp. A theory as to the origin of the Andean Civilization of western South America. It is proposed that it was derived from Mexico and Central America in Preclassic (Book of Mormon) times and by means of coastwise navigation. 10¢; 25¢.
7. Special Publications, No. 1, DISCOVERING THE PAST: INTRODUCTORY READINGS AND VISUAL STUDIES IN ARCHAEOLOGY. Selected and arranged by M. Wells Jakeman. UAS, 1954. 347 pp. A beginning textbook in archaeology. Treats the principal early civilizations of both the Old World and the New. Also contains a section on principles and methods and an appendix on Book of Mormon archaeology. Single copy, \$3; \$6.
8. Special Publications, No. 2, STELA 5, IZAPA, CHIAPAS, MEXICO: A MAJOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY OF THE NEW WORLD. DETAILED COMMENTARY ON THE CARVING. By M.

Wells Jakeman. UAS, 1958. 88 pp. A definitive study of Izapa Stela 5, previously identified as a sculptured portrayal of Lehi's vision of the Tree of Life (see above, No. 1). Hieroglyphs above the heads of two of the six persons are deciphered as recording the personal names of actual participants in that episode. Single copy, \$1; \$2.

79. 5 UAS PUBLICATIONS OUT OF PRINT. The wall chart of the Lehi Tree-of-Life Stone (The Tree-of-Life Carving of Stela 5, Izapa, Chiapas, Mexico, by M. Wells Jakeman. Drawing reproduction, 4 x 5 ft.) is now out of print and cannot be supplied, according to the UAS general secretary-treasurer. The same is true of the following issues of the UAS Newsletter: No. 40 (Book of Mormon geography), No. 45 (Dead Sea Scrolls), and No. 72 (New Testament archaeology); also of the article by Carl Hugh Jones, "A Pueblid Site in Utah Valley. "