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The Newsletter of
the Foundation for
Ancient Research
& Mormon Studies

INSIGHTS

AN ANCIENT WINDOW

June 1995

"by study and also by faith" D & C 88:118

Data Base Impresses Scholars at FARMS-Sponsored Scroll Conference in Jerusalem

Several BYU professors and FARMS staff and board members recently returned from a successful conference in Jerusalem. On April 30, BYU and FARMS cosponsored the Judaeen Desert Scrolls Conference at the BYU Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies. The primary purpose of the conference was to present the first working version of the Dead Sea Scrolls Electronic Database, the latest technology using computer images and text search features to aid research on the Dead Sea Scrolls (described in recent issues of *Insights*).



Martínez addresses scroll scholars

The conference also featured some of the world's most prominent Dead Sea Scrolls scholars, including Florentino García Martínez, Torleif Elgvin, Emanuel Tov, and Eugene Ulrich, who presented the results of their scroll research. The papers presented at the conference will be collected in a volume to be published by E. J. Brill, the venerable Dutch firm that publishes many important

books related to biblical materials. It will be made available in a future issue of *Insights*.

The paper by Donald W. Parry of BYU examined the divine names *LORD* (Hebrew *Yahweh*, *Jehovah*) and *God* (Hebrew *Elohim*) as recorded in

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Review Begins New Features: Picks and Index

In the latest *Review of Books on the Book of Mormon*, editor Daniel Peterson selects the books he would most recommend to his readers from among those published in 1994. The book by Warren and Michaela Aston is the most highly recommended in this issue: *In the Footsteps of Lehi: New Evidence for Lehi's Journey across Arabia to Bountiful* (reviewed by Ara Norwood). Peterson recommends the book enthusiastically for its "brief and rather personal summary of the authors' extremely important research into the Arabian geography" that might correspond to 1 Nephi.

Four other books recommended by Peterson in this issue are *Explorers of Pre-Columbian America?* by Eugene Fingerhut, which gives a non-Latter-day Saint account of the ongoing debate about contacts between the old and new worlds before Columbus (reviewed by William Hamblin); *Legend and Lore of the Americas before 1492* by Ronald Fritze, a collection of entries on theories and legends of transoceanic colonization that Peterson says is "fun for browsing" for the more advanced student of the subject (reviewed by William Hamblin); *The Book of Mormon: Helaman through 3 Nephi 8* edited

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The Foundation for
Ancient Research
& Mormon Studies

FARMS UPDATE

A Report on Research in Progress

Number 100

Old World People in the New? (Part 2)

The Quiché Indian tradition of "Toltec" migrants from the Near East reaching Mesoamerica (see *Insights*, April 1995) may be of interest in relation to new linguistic research reported by a senior linguist at one of this country's most prestigious universities. Copies of two papers outlining her findings have become available; however she insists that their contents not be attributed to her until they have been formally published.

Since more than two and a half years have passed without publication, perhaps their substance deserves to be made public even though the author must remain unnamed. The papers were delivered in 1992 at the Association of American Geographers' annual meeting in San Diego and the Language Origins Society at Cambridge University. They duplicate each other considerably; the following summary is an amalgamation.

Her linguistic reconstruction shows that Afro-Asiatic languages, in particular ancient Egyptian (and related Hebrew?), are genetically close, and possibly ancestral, to geographically distant languages in both the Old and New Worlds. In the Old World these include Dravidian of southern India, Chinese, and Malayo-Polynesian, and in the New World, Quechua (the lan-

guage of the Incas) and Zoquean, Mayan, Zapotec, and Mixtec in Mesoamerica. More specifically the Mixe-Zoque languages of southern Mexico, which have been hypothesized by other linguists to derive from the language spoken by the Olmec, as well as the Mayan languages of Mexico and Central America, are closely related to and probably descended from ancient Egyptian.

Another genetic relationship uncovered is between Proto-Indo-European (the ancestor of most western European tongues) and the Uto-Aztecan languages of North America, including Nahuatl (Aztec) of Mexico. She has arrived at this picture using the linguistic comparative method with reliance on regularity of sound change and pattern congruence.

Quechua is closely related to the "Egyptoid" languages in Mesoamerica, but it also contains an admixture of Semitic vocabulary that seems to be Arabic. Various cultural parallels are correlated with the language relationships hypothesized. For instance the Mayan origin myth in the Quiché sacred book, the *Popol Vuh*, tells of four great sages (Q'uj' kumatz, Tepev, Tzakol, Bitol) who arrived on the sea coast and found nothing, so they created everything. The names of these in Mayan she

finds relate to Egyptian roots in both sounds and meanings. A table of twenty cognate sets of words in Egyptian, Mixe-Zoque, Mayan, and Quechua is included.

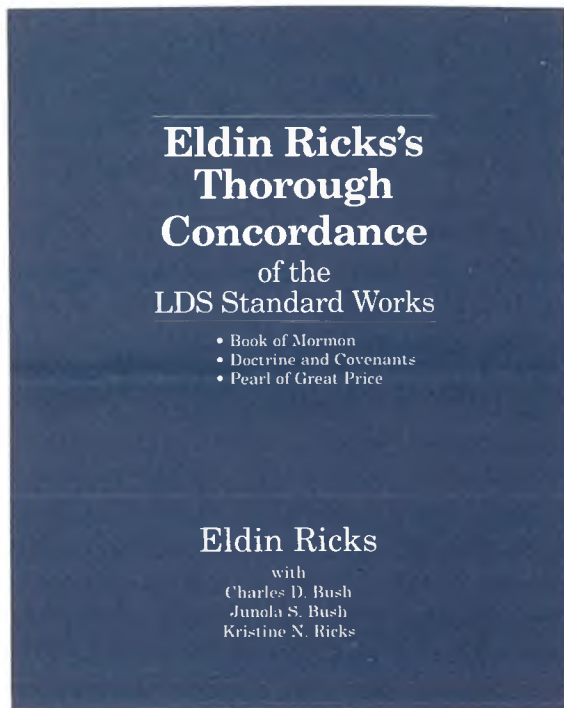
Some connections between Old and New World languages are so close as to throw doubt on an exclusive scenario of ancient Bering Strait crossings; hence migration theories will need revision. This seems particularly true of Egyptian ties to the New World. The Olmec and the Chavin culture of Peru appeared abruptly around 1500 B.C. At this period Egypt was involved in an intense period of conquest and organized rule abroad; oceanic voyages by Egyptian ships were clearly possible then. A further example of an interesting parallel is a Zoque myth that tells of the life and death of Homshuk, the maize god, that bears much similarity to Egyptian tales of Osiris. Yet proof of these assertions lies not in a few cultural parallels but in the accuracy of the linguistic analysis, which is extensive, she says.

We can hardly wait for the full treatment!

Based on research by John L. Sorenson.

New FARMS publications

Eldin Ricks's Concordance Aids Scripture Study



Eldin Ricks devoted his career to a study of the scriptures. In addition to spending thirty-six years teaching and inspiring students at BYU, he wrote many books and articles about the scriptures—especially materials intended to help others study the scriptures, such as his *Combination Reference*, often known as the “Ricks Ready Reference,” and editions of the Book of Mormon intended to make reading and studying the book easier (his *Fireside Edition* and *Wide Margin Edition*). But one project that he worked on for much of the last twenty years of his life was uncompleted at his death in 1992—his concordance to the LDS scriptures.

In 1971 he initiated the first project to put the scriptures into computer

form. The database that resulted has been used as the basis for the Topical Guide and other scriptural references and was the original database for the Church's distribution of the scriptures in computer form (LDS View) and for most other recent concordances, both computer and printed.

But Brother Ricks had in mind a *printed* concordance of the LDS scriptures comparable to the *James Strong Exhaustive*

Concordance of the Bible, which lists all occurrences of all words in the scripture text, shown with a meaningful context phrase.

While a printed concordance cannot be searched as rapidly as a computer database and cannot lead readers as easily to combinations of words, it does offer some significant advantages over computer databases: it is portable and easy to read. FARMS has supported the publication of this concordance be-

cause we believe that it will serve a number of our readers very well for many years to come.

Brother Ricks labored off and on for many years to make this project a reality, with help in later years from Chuck and Junola Bush. After Brother Ricks's death in 1992, the Bushes and Kristine Ricks continued the project. The following statement taken from their preface to the published concordance reflects their regard (and that of many others) for Brother Ricks and his work on the scriptures: “For Eldin Ricks, this work comes from love and respect for the holy scriptures; for us, it also comes from love and respect for Eldin Ricks.”

Media center

Provo Cable Picks up FARMS Materials

FARMS programs are now available to Provo residents on KBYU Community Cable. KBYU operates through TCI cable, and the programs will be shown every Saturday between 9:00 and 10:00 A.M. on channel 40 in Provo and on channel 8 on the BYU campus. Starting in June, KBYU Community Cable will begin broadcasting the Book of Mormon Lecture Series. Videos of these classes, as well as audiotapes and transcripts, are available for purchase through FARMS.

ABASED He that exalteth himself shall be a, hast a. thyself thou shalt be exalted;	D&C 101:42 112:3
ABASETH and he that a. himself shall be exalted.	D&C 101:42
ABASING others were a. themselves,	Alma 4:13
ABATED the famine a.; and my father tarried in	Abr. 2:5
ABEL if he would murder his brother A. from Enoch to A., who was slain	Hel. 6:27 D&C 84:16
A., the first martyr, was there, and his again conceived and bare his brother A.	138:40 Moses 5:17
A. hearkened unto the voice of the Lord.	5:17
A. was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was	5:17

sample entries from the concordance

Publicly speaking

Brown Bags Keep Participants Up to Date on Ongoing Research

In the FARMS brown bag lecture series during the last two months Hugh Nibley spoke about figure 6 from Facsimile 2 of the book of Abraham (a transcript is available; see the accompanying article on this page), Steve Booras and Don Parry demonstrated the Dead Sea Scroll Electronic Database that we have reported on in previous issues of *Insights*, Gene Clark reported on his preliminary research on metals near the probable site of Old World Bountiful (see the article on page 5), Noel Reynolds explored the ways that 1 Nephi gives political support to Nephi's prophetic role, and Doug Chabries (new member of the FARMS board; see the article on page 5) brought participants up to date on high tech support for archaeological research.

Reynolds's discussion focused on Nephi's response to the claims of Laman and Lemuel that Nephi had robbed them of the right to govern. In 1 Nephi, in particular chapters 17 and 18, Nephi makes it clear that Laman and Lemuel deny God's role in their lives and thus forfeit the right to leadership that might otherwise have come to them as the elder sons; in contrast, Nephi righteously accepts and obeys the Lord's commands and consequently derives his authority from God.

Most of the discussion led by Doug Chabries focused on the potential applications of synthetic aperture radar (SAR) for surveying potential archaeological sites prior to excavation. SAR can penetrate the ground, especially dry sand, and let researchers effectively see what is under the surface as far as 30 feet. One potential application, for example, would be surveying the areas around the Dead Sea with SAR from a low flying aircraft to determine if there are any undiscovered caves capable of holding scrolls. Arrangements have been made with Israel to begin that project.

Another technique discussed by Chabries was multiple spectral imaging. Different inks fluoresce at different frequencies of light. If researchers can find the right frequency, they can get an improved image of the writing on an old or damaged manuscript, such as the Book of Mormon manuscript, because the ink fluoresces but the material on which the manuscript is written does not.

The Nibley corner

Figure 6 of Facsimile 2 the Focus of Lecture by Nibley

On 15 March Hugh W. Nibley, professor emeritus of Ancient Scripture at BYU, presented a lecture in the FARMS Brown Bag series entitled "Figure 6 of Facsimile 2." The lecture, held in the Joseph Smith Building's conference room, was well attended—indeed, it was "standing room only." Professors, students, and other friends of FARMS gathered to hear Brother Nibley's insights on the meanings of Egyptian symbols in the facsimiles purchased by Joseph Smith and included in the Pearl of Great Price. Brother Nibley discussed the Lord's comment that explanations of the facsimiles "will be given in the own due time of the Lord" (see the explanation opposite Facsimile 2 in the Pearl of Great Price) and said that we are just now receiving some of the clues, or puzzle pieces, for the meanings of some of these Egyptian symbols.

Nibley explained how the interpretations of Egyptian theology contained in hypocephali have been influenced by studies of Bible literature and mythology, studies that only began in the 1960s. The cycle of creation is a major theme of Egyptian theology, and Brother Nibley explained how "the [Egyptian] public life was a constant celebration of these new beginnings and rebirths. . . . This is found in all ancient civilizations, but nowhere as passionately as in Egypt, and nowhere better expressed than in our Facsimile 2." Nibley talked about how this cycle affects our lives, how life is a process of degeneration, of entropy. "We're moving in the direction of our weaknesses," said Nibley, but as in the legend of the phoenix, there is a resurrection, a rising from the ashes.

Among other interesting themes, Nibley also touched on the apparent portrayal in Facsimile 2 and other ancient Egyptian texts of individuals participating in initiatory and other rituals similar to those performed in LDS temples.

You may order a transcript of Brother Nibley's lecture using the order form enclosed. Transcripts of other lectures by this insightful LDS scholar are available through FARMS as well.

New FARMS publication

Preliminary Study Identifies Possible Sources for Nephi's Ore

The efforts begun by Warren and Michaela Aston to identify important sites along the Lehi trail eventually evolved into a FARMS project and exploration to Southern Oman's Dhofar region in 1992. The remote area of Wadi Sayq in that region has been identified as a location that appears to meet all of the criteria one can infer from the text of the Book of Mormon for the coastal site named Bountiful by Lehi and his family, where they lived while building a ship for their ocean crossing.

The text also states that while they lived at Bountiful, the Lord showed Nephi where to go to locate ore with which to make tools for their boat-building project. While it is known that greater Oman was a famous source of abundant and high-quality copper during Lehi's time, commercial mining near Wadi Sayq is not documented. The ancient copper mines of Oman are hundreds of miles farther north and unlikely candidates for Nephi's ore.

Graciously responding to a FARMS request, Eugene Clark, former geologist for ESSO in Oman, has prepared a preliminary report of geological

possibilities of mineral deposits in the Dhofar region, where Wadi Sayq is located.

The report identifies a number of geological possibilities for copper or iron ore accessible to Wadi Sayq, based on published geological studies and surveys. An on-site survey is projected for later this year to explore the possibilities documented in this report.

Most promising among the published studies are reports of specular hematite found in small, random deposits on the Mirbat plain east of Salalah. Specular hematite is the most readily available form of high-quality iron and would have been most attractive as a low-tech smelting source for Nephi's tools. The report also notes that Dhofar irons would usually occur in mixtures with manganese and carbon, yielding higher-quality steel that would be superior for tools.

This preliminary report documents the plausibility of the Nephite account of ore being smelted for shipbuilding tools. It also defines a range of possible ore sources in the Dhofar area that can be verified through on-site exploration.

Board notes

Dean of Engineering Joins FARMS Board

Douglas M. Chabries, professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Dean of the College of Engineering and Technology at BYU, has accepted an invitation to become a member of the board of directors of FARMS. He brings to the board some new research perspectives and a wealth of university administrative experience.

Dean Chabries received his M.S. from the California Institute of Technology and his Ph.D. from Brown University. He has taught at BYU in the College of Engineering since 1978. Before that he led research on underwater signal processing for the U.S. Navy. From



1983 to 1990 he served as Chairman of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and from 1990 to January of 1995 as Assistant Academic Vice President responsible for computing services. In January of 1995 he was named Dean of the College of Engineering and Technology.

In addition to his computer expertise, Chabries is particularly interested in ways in which new technologies can be used in support of archaeological and historical research. He outlined some of these technologies at the most recent FARMS brown bag seminar (see the article on page 4).

President's message

Major Endowment Will Support New FARMS Projects

Karen and Alan Ashton of Orem, Utah, have established a significant FARMS endowment to support the timely implementation of new projects. Their generous gift will ensure that important new research opportunities are not missed while waiting for funding to become available—the endowment will support scholars in pursuing these research opportunities until normal sources of funding are established. This new funding

and the increased amount of research it will support both necessitate and make possible the creation of a new position of Director of Research to help in the development of new projects and the supervision of ongoing projects (see the article below).

Brother Ashton is president of the BYU 14th Stake and is recently retired as chairman of the board of WordPerfect Corporation. Sister Ashton serves on the general board of the Primary

and is the principal founder of the Orem Story-Telling Festival. They are the parents of eleven children.

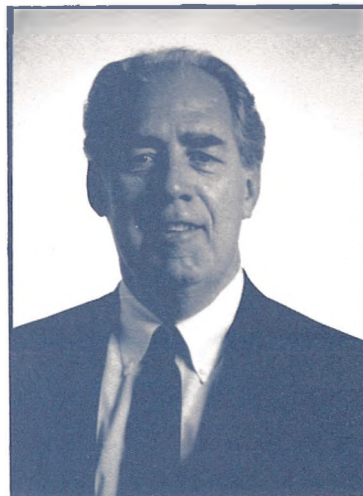
Brother and Sister Ashton have long been enthusiastic supporters of scholarly research on the Book of Mormon. This new gift combined with gifts from other FARMS donors raises support for such efforts in the LDS community to an exciting new level.

Staff notes

FARMS Creates New Position: Director of Research

FARMS is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. M. Gerald Bradford to the FARMS staff as Director of Research, a new position for FARMS. Brother Bradford will provide supervision and support for all FARMS research and related activities.

He will supervise the evaluation of all incoming project proposals. He will also work with others on the staff and the board to develop new research projects and involve new scholars who have not before worked with FARMS. His responsibilities for overseeing research projects, after they have been approved, will include working closely with project directors, coordinating efforts to raise funds for individual projects, and evaluating the results of projects. In a related area, he will help to evaluate manuscripts submitted to FARMS.



Brother Bradford will also assist in a number of outreach efforts. He will organize and conduct the FARMS brown bag seminar, give support to FARMS working groups, and provide direction for the annual lecture and symposium series as well as other FARMS public lectures and firesides.

Brother Bradford is a longtime subscriber and friend of

FARMS. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Santa Barbara, in Religious Studies. His areas of interest include the history of religious thought and comparative religion. He has taught at BYU, UC Santa Barbara, Bowdoin College, and UC Irvine. Since 1992 he has been a book review editor for *BYU Studies*. Publications of interest to FARMS readers include articles in the *Encyclopedia of Mormonism* on doctrine and orthodoxy.

For the past eight years, Brother Bradford has been Executive Associate with the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, directing the operations of the Western Center of the Academy, located at UC Irvine. In this position, he was responsible for developing and managing a number of study projects and conferences.

FARMS Sponsors Scroll Conference in Jerusalem (continued from page 1)

Samuel both in the Old Testament and in the earlier manuscript found in the scrolls. Parry concluded that in more than a dozen instances an early scribe changed *Jehovah* to *Elohim* in the Old Testament, possibly for theological reasons.

Martínez showed that there is more material concerning the Messiah in the scrolls than previously known. He has found evidence of belief in two Messiahs among the Qumran community. His analysis and that of other conference presenters will be of great interest to Latter-day Saints

"The conference has generated intense interest in the various Dead Sea Scroll projects at BYU among biblical scholars," says Noel Reynolds, president of FARMS and professor of Political Science at BYU. People at the conference were particularly interested in the database, according to Steven Booras, the data-

base project manager for FARMS, "because scholars have realized how beneficial an electronic version of the Dead Sea Scrolls can be to their work."

Reynolds expects the database to be finished within a year; then it will be made available to select scholars for trial use. It will allow those scholars to answer questions about the texts and conduct word comparisons and searches almost instantly. Such tasks can take weeks or months to complete without a computer database.

Scott Woodward of the BYU Department of Microbiology also presented his ground-breaking DNA research on the scrolls, which has been funded in part by FARMS. Woodward has shown that by testing the DNA of unidentified scroll fragments, it may now be possible to connect those fragments with each other. Other BYU faculty pre-

senting their Dead Sea Scrolls research were David Rolph Seely and Dana Pike, both of the BYU Ancient Scripture Department.

FARMS and BYU plan to hold an international conference at BYU in the spring of 1997 that will feature an even wider range of BYU contributions to Dead Sea Scroll studies. In the meantime, the project has received media attention within Utah from KSL-TV, which ran a four-part segment on the database.

While in Jerusalem, Reynolds also met with Israeli antiquities officials and arranged opportunities for FARMS to conduct a survey of the area surrounding the Dead Sea looking for caves that could be additional scroll repositories, using BYU's new ground-penetrating radar. The system has the potential to locate underground structures and cavities as deep as 30 feet below the surface.

Review Adds New Features (continued from page 1)

by Monte S. Nyman and Charles D. Tate, Jr., another solid contribution in the series from the BYU Religious Studies Center (reviewed by Mack C. Stirling), and *The Legacy of the Brass Plates of Laban* by H. Clay Gorton, which examines all the Isaiah texts in the Book of Mormon and proposes explanations for their variations from the King James Version (reviewed by Garold N. Davis and Mark J. Johnson). Peterson promises to continue appending such a list of his "picks" to his introduction in each issue.

In addition to such positive recommendations, this issue also

has some reviews that will interest those who prefer the more combative side of the *Review*. John Gee responds to critic Edward H. Ashment in an exhaustively researched and footnoted essay about Egyptian papyri and the book of Abraham. Louis Midgley reviews George D. Smith's *Religion, Feminism, and Freedom of Conscience: A Mormon/ Humanist Dialogue*. Alan Goff takes Mormon revisionist historians to task for denying they are positivists while clinging to their positivist epistemological claims. And Bill Hamblin documents the inconsistencies of Paul Toscano's recent writings.

The latest *Review* also tackles the issue and problems of updating the language of the Book of Mormon in reviews of simplified versions of the Book of Mormon.

Also new in this issue—look for the first comprehensive index to the *Review of Books on the Book of Mormon*. This index covers the reviews published in all previous issues, from 1989 through 1994. It is divided into listings by author, title, reviewer, and subject to give readers the best possible chance of finding the information they need. An annual index will be printed in the first number of the *Review* each year.

Forthcoming publication

Journal to Honor Sperry

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Sidney B. Sperry, one of the foremost LDS scholars of this century. In honor of that occasion, the *Journal of Book of Mormon Studies* will devote its next issue to Sperry's writings on the Book of Mormon.

Some of the materials to be published are papers and lectures that have not previously been published. Others will be reprinted from *Our Book of Mormon*, which has long been out of print. This issue of the Journal will also contain other items of interest to students of the Book of Mormon and fans of Sperry: a summary of his important work on the Book of Mormon published in his *Book of Mormon Compendium*, which is still available in print; a bibliography of Sperry's writings, and an essay that evaluates his place as an LDS scholar.

Upcoming events

- **August 21–25. Education Week at BYU.** We welcome our friends and subscribers who will attend this year's Education Week to stop in the office while in Provo. We are always happy to see you. Don't miss the FARMS display in the BYU bookstore or the lectures that will be given at Education Week by John W. Welch and M. Gerald Bradford (see the Education Week program for details).

Publicly speaking

Critical Text Project Reported in California

The American Biblical Manuscript Center in Claremont, California, and the University of Judaism in West Los Angeles invited Royal Skousen, professor of English at BYU, to present a lecture in March on the Book of Mormon Critical Text Project. Skousen's lecture, entitled "Fragments from the American Dead Sea: Reconstructing the Original Text of the Book of Mormon," addressed recent findings from the Wilford Wood fragments of the original Book of Mormon manuscript, non-English Hebraisms in the English language Book of Mormon text, and implications for New Testament textual criticism based on these and other recent findings. Skousen's lecture was one of a six-part lecture series on "Text Discoveries That Have Changed Religious History." Skousen believes this is the first time the Book of Mormon has been included in a scholarly series not sponsored by an organization connected with the Church. The invitation is encouraging because non-LDS scholars are recognizing the scholarly work being done with the Book of Mormon.

INSIGHTS

AN ANCIENT WINDOW

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The Purpose of FARMS

The Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies (FARMS) encourages and supports research about the Book of Mormon, Another Testament of Jesus Christ, and other ancient scriptures.

FARMS is a nonprofit educational foundation, independent of all other organizations. Its main research interests include ancient history, language, literature, culture, geography, politics, and law relevant to the scriptures. Although such subjects are of secondary importance when compared with the spiritual and eternal messages of the scriptures, solid research and academic perspectives alone can supply certain kinds of useful information, even if only tentatively, concerning many significant and interesting questions about the scriptures.

The Foundation works to make interim and final reports about this research available widely, promptly, and economically. As a service to teachers and students of the scriptures, research results are distributed both in scholarly and popular formats.

It is hoped that this information will help all interested people to "come unto Christ" (Jacob 1:7) and to understand and take more seriously these ancient witnesses of the atonement of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

BYU Religion Prof Traces History of Book of Abraham

For nearly thirty years, H. Donl Peterson, a member of the Religious Education faculty at BYU, pursued solutions to the puzzles surrounding the papyri from which the book of Abraham was translated. His final book, *The Story of the Book of Abraham: Mummies, Manuscripts, and Mormonism*, completed just before his death in March 1994, aims to answer some of the questions surrounding the second and perhaps most controversial book of the Pearl of Great Price.

Since the nineteenth century, Latter-day Saints had thought that the manuscripts from which the Prophet Joseph translated the book had all been destroyed in the 1871 Chicago fire. But in 1967, fragments of manuscripts once owned by Joseph Smith turned up in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. When Joseph Smith first saw the Egyptian papyri brought to him by Michael Chandler, Jean François Champollion, decipherer of the Rosetta stone, was still six years away from publishing his dictionary of Egyptian hieroglyphics in Europe: no European or American could read the papyri that Chandler brought to Joseph. But by the late 1960s, Egyptologists were plentiful and many voiced opinions. Criticism of the origin of the book of Abraham flared up once more.

Professor Peterson, who had become frustrated by his inability—and that of his LDS colleagues—to answer students' questions about the origins and whereabouts of the Joseph Smith papyri, began his long search for evidence of the manuscripts' trail. In the process he traced the movements of Antonio Lebolo, the man who most likely removed the mummies and manuscripts from a tomb in Thebes and brought them to Europe. He also searched for the connection between Lebolo and Chandler, and paints for the reader a picture of frontier America and its fascination with antiquities. He tells the story of Joseph Smith, the papyri, and the book of Abraham's translation, publication, and canonization. He also attempts to retrace the trail of the four "Mormon" mummies and the papyri after the Prophet's death. In the process he grapples with many of the critics of the book, unveiling the historical origins of some of the most prevalent condemnations of the book of Abraham and the Prophet Joseph.

This book presents the most exhaustive evi-

dence available today about the origin and the disposition of the Joseph Smith papyri. Peterson has indeed managed to answer many of his students' questions, and he has laid the groundwork for further investigation into this sometimes mysterious and much-debated piece of LDS history. The student of the Pearl of Great Price will find this book a valuable aid in understanding not only the book of Abraham but also the early Church. It is available on this order form.

Bargain basement

Insights Binder Keeps Back Issues Safe



The new format of *Insights* that we introduced in the April 1995 issue allows us to punch the paper so that you may put the newsletter into a binder for storage if you wish. While any binder will do, some readers have requested a binder with the FARMS name and logo. After obtaining a supply of nice binders at a reasonable price, we are happy to make them available to you on this order form for an introductory price of only \$2.50. They will sell for the regular price of \$4.50 in the future.

The binder is dark blue with gold lettering. It is made of high-quality vinyl over a rigid board for durability, with a nickel-plated three-ring mechanism. We hope you will enjoy it and find it a useful means of preserving the information provided in the newsletter.

Catalog Number	Items featured in this issue	Qty.	Unit Price	Total Price
REV-95a	Daniel C. Peterson, editor, <i>Review of Books on the Book of Mormon</i> , 375 pp.		\$8.95	
RCK-95	Eldin Ricks, <i>Eldin Ricks's Thorough Concordance of the LDS Standard Works, FARMS</i> , 904 pp. \$21.95 retail. Introductory price is 40% off.		\$12.95	
F-BIN	Insights Binder, 3 ring, for preserving back issues of <i>Insights</i> newsletter. \$4.50 retail. Introductory price is 45% off.		\$2.50	
N-FIG	Hugh W. Nibley, "Figure 6 of Facsimile 2," transcript of FARMS brown bag lecture, 35 pp.		\$2.25	
CLR-95	Eugene E. Clark, "A Preliminary Study of the Geology and Mineral Resources of Dhofar, the Sultanate of Oman," 31 pp.		\$2.25	
PTR-95	H. Donl Peterson, <i>The Story of the Book of Abraham: Mummies, Manuscripts, and Mormonism</i> , Deseret Book, 315 pp. \$21.95 retail		\$17.50	
	Selected items featured in the previous issue of <i>Insights</i>			
BYUS-95	" <i>We Rejoice in Christ</i> ": <i>A Bibliography of LDS Writings about Jesus Christ in the New Testament Gospels</i> , BYU Studies, 1995, 128 pp., retail \$6.95		\$5.00	
UND-93	Grant Underwood, <i>The Millenarian World of Early Mormonism</i> , Univ. of Illinois Press, 1993, 213 pp.		\$19.95	
H&S-94	Richard Holzapfel and David Seely, <i>My Father's House</i> , Bookcraft, 1994, 290 pp.		\$11.95	
PAR-94	Donald W. Parry, ed., <i>Temples of the Ancient World</i> , Deseret & FARMS, 1994, 805 pp.		\$22.50	
LEB-V1 LEB-T1 LEB-VT1	E. Dale LeBaron, "A Pattern for Preparing a People to Meet Christ," video lecture audiotape transcript		\$7.95 \$5.95 \$1.50	
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