

Book of Mormon Central

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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 knowledge of recent archaeological discoveries bearing on the Latter-day Saint scriptures; also 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.)

60.0 NEWSLETTER EIGHT YEARS OLD: AN EDITO-RIAL. Since its inception in 1951, the UAS Newsletter has seen growth, change, progress, and tolerated the pens of seven editors. She has changed format, masthead and style, but has continued to serve the UAS as its main organ of communication during eight of its 10 years of existence. During all this time there has been a constant effort on the part of the editors to improve the Newsletter.

Firstly, we have striven to disseminate pertinent scholarly information in a clear readable language. As the most frequently published organ of the society, the Newsletter has had the responsibility of keeping members abreast of exciting new discoveries and important finds and contributions made by archaeology especially as they may pertain to scripture, as well as news of society members, their accomplishments, studies, and discoveries.

In some respects we have been negligent. Coverage of Biblical and Pearl of Great Price themes has not been as good as perhaps would be desirable, although a special edition of the Newsletter was devoted to the Dead Sea Scrolls on the anniversary of their discovery (Number 45) and several reviews and other articles have been published dealing with the Bible and Pearl of Great Price.

Illustrative material has been wanting in several of the numbers, as well as good articles submitted by a greater variety of the society membership.

However, some of the outstanding features of the publication include the new double column format which makes for easier reading and quicker reference. The editors have tried to follow a consistent style and make reference to past issues whenever pertinent information bearing on the subject being discussed may have been referred to in a previous issue.

Society meetings, executive decisions, and timely reports on the progress of the organization have been faithfully reported to the Society membership.

Reports of five expeditions put into the field by Brigham Young University and the Society are part of the historical and documentary report of the Newsletter.

From a single sheet run off on a ditto machine and distributed to about 75 members, the newsletter has grown to an average of about 4-6 multilithed pages distributed to over 700 members.

This brief history would not be complete without some mention of, and thanks to, the men who have guided this publication.

The society should ever be grateful to Dr. Ross T. Christensen who has personally edited 30 numbers of the Newsletter and has had a large influence in maintaining the fine scholarly basis and style of the publication. Mention should also be made of Dr. M. Wells Jakeman, general editor of the Society, who has given constant encouragement and many valuable suggestions. Past editors, John L. Sorenson, Alfred L. Bush, Gareth W. Lowe, and Bruce W. Warren, should also be congratulated for their fine contributions.

May future years see greater growth, continued improvement and service to Society members and rewarding information found in the pages of a good publication.

60.1 A SYSTEMATIC HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS. A review of the Program of the History of American Indians, Part One: "Pre-Columbian America," by Pedro Armillas, Washington D. C.: Pan American Union, 1958. Reviewed by Dee F. Green.

This publication is virtually the only attempt to give a complete outline of the pre-Columbian cultures in the New World. Its objectives are: "to develop a plan for a general history of the Americas or for various histories of America, to see whether it was possible to write a general history," and to stimulate thinking with regard to problems in the history of the Americas as well as outline material that should be covered in teaching programs connected with American History.

Mr. Armillas, with the help of a capable staff of scholars has done as admirable job in preparation In each chapter several "themes" or problems are posed relating to subject matter within the area. Then the author comments on each theme, giving in most cases a good deal of succinctly stated information about the theme and introducing various points of view in connection with the problem. This is followed by a bibliography on each theme.

It is apparent from the author's writing that he favors "independent inventionism," a school of thought that the reviewer holds to only in certain instances, but, nevertheless, Armillas points out in most cases the diffusionists arguments and makes clear that the opinions expressed are his own. The most valuable contribution of the publication is that it could, as stated in its objectives, serve as an excellent outline for anyone attempting to write a history of pre-Columbian America.

60.2 THE LIFE OF PAUL HENNING. Following is a brief sketch of Paul Henning by W. Ernest Young, director of the Salt Lake Chapter of the UAS.

Born in Berlin, Germany in 1872, Paul August E. Henning was an un-heralded, un-sung, hero of early Book of Mormon archaeology. Of his early life very little is known except that he studied at the University of Berlin and also in Zurich. He probably met LDS missionaries in Germany, perhaps President George C. Naegle who was at that time president of the Swiss-German Mission.

Later we find him in Mexico living in the Juarez Stake. Bishop Frank Scott baptized him a member of the Latter-day Saint Church on April 2, 1899 and President Naegle confirmed him. He was at this time living in the colony of Oaxaca, Sonora, Mexico and joined the Brigham Young University expedition of 1900 as they passed through the colony.

The expedition had left Provo, Utah on April 17 and traveling by wagon and pack animals had spent some time exploring cliff dwellings in Arizona and Northern Mexico.

Henning stayed with the expedition until they reached Guatemala City, where he remained to teach languages in the University of Guatemala. During their trip through Mexico, the expedition stopped at several important ruins, including Teotihuacan and Palenque.

After some research and investigation into the possibilities of missionary work in Guatemala, Mr. Henning reported to the First Presidency of the LDS Church. On November 22, 1904, he was called to serve in the Swiss-German Mission. This trip to his homeland did not, however, dampen his love for Book of Mormon archaeology, for after his release, he returned to Mexico City and was appointed ethnographic collector for the National Museum in Mexico City.

During his collectorship, he wrote rather extensively on the antiquities of both the Mayas and Aztecs. He spent many months exploring Southern Mexico, and before his untimely death at the age of 51 he was recognized as a scholar, linguist, and archaeologist. As a result of the alert and prompt action of President Franklin S. Harris, Brigham Young University was able to acquire his library, which consists of 147 volumes in German, Spanish, English, French, and Hebrew. There are also 75 bound volumes of pamphlets, as well as letters, films, manuscripts, photographs, and drawings. (See Newsletter, 49.1.)

60.3 INTERESTING ISSUE OF ARCHAEOLOGY. Bruce W. Warren, graduate of the Brigham Young University Department of Archaeology, former editor of the Newsletter, and presently working with the NWAF in Mexico, is the author of an article entitled, "New Discoveries in Chiapas, Southern Mexico" published in Archaeology, Volume 12 Number 2, Summer 1959.

Mr. Warren, who is preparing the ceramic report on Chiapa de Corzo (site of the NWAF explorations), deals mostly with pottery and stylistic relationships with other sites in the Mesoamerican area. Comparisons and comments by the author are made for periods I through VIII at Chiapa in an effort to show cultural influences detected in the occupation period which runs from ca. 1000 BC to ca. 500 AD.

The article is well illustrated, containing diagrams of vessel types as well as several good photographs including pottery, figurines, and architecture.

An article dealing with two carved human bones found at Chiapa de Corzo is also contained in this number. It was written by Keith A. Dixon another member of the NWAF staff. He obtained his Ph. D. from the University of California at Los Angeles.

"Nippur, The Holy City" is the title of an article appearing in the first pages of this issue of <u>Archaeology</u> and containing interesting information on temple excavations at that site. Written by Dr. Vaughn E. Crawford, Director of the Bagdad School of the American Schools of Oriental Research, the article should be of some interest to Biblical students especially in light of evidence pointing to this city as that at which the Tower of Babel was probably erected. (See Newsletter, 16. 01).

60.4 LEADERSHIP WEEK LECTURES HAVE LARGE ATTENDANCE. More than 1, 300 persons attended the series of two lectures delivered by Dr. Ross T. Christensen at Brigham Young University's first anDr. Christensen's afternoon series emphasized the history of archaeology in the LDS Church and particularly at BYU. The evening lectures were delivered to enthusiastic crowds eager to learn of recent discoveries and progress made in the field. Some topics included, "Where is the narrow neck of land?" "How old are these ruins?" and "Lehi's vision in stone."

Several members of the Salt Lake chapter were in attendance at these lecture series as well as many other eager supporters of the Book of Mormon from the Salt Lake Area.

60.5 A QUESTION FOR THE EDITOR. As a regular feature of the Newsletter, a selected question on an archaeological subject is answered either by the editor or by a guest contributor. Questions should be sent to Editor, UAS Newsletter, Department of Archaeology, BYU, Provo, Utah.

60.50 Newsletter Goes to the Devil. Sir: Recently we have heard a great deal about comparisons of Quetzalcoatl with the Saviour. Does Satan have any counterpart in the mythology of ancient Mesoamerica and if so, what is his relationship to Quetzalcoatl?--BG.

Quetzalcóatl, the bearded Fair God of the Toltecs has for several years been investigated with the possibility that he might be identified with the Saviour and the Book of Mormon account of his visit to this continent. Many interesting and curious facts seem to support this conclusion and scholars as well as amateurs in the LDS Church agree that the characteristics of the two are so similar that there must be some connection.

Your inquiry as to Satan is extremely interesting, especially since there appears to be such a character in ancient Toltec-Aztec mythology.

Among the pantheon of gods credited to the Toltecs, is found one called Tezcatlipoca. He is the god of war, pestilence, darkness, and the underworld. Numerous references in Ixtilixochitl, Sahagún, and Torquemada describe him as ferocious, wicked, and the author of wars and destruction among their people.

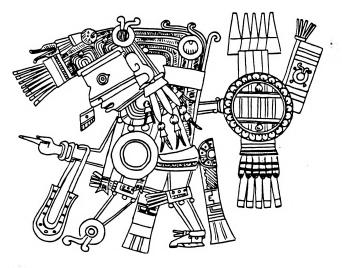
Originally, he was the twin brother of Quetzalcóatl, but opposes him in all things. They are eternal enemies, and several interesting legends are told about the history of their feud.

An early account says that "... one day Quetzalcoath hit him on the head with a club and Tezcathipoca was knocked down from his throne up in the sky. As he fell down to the earth, he was transformed into a vicious jaguar that haunted the world, devouring people, nearly wiping out an entire generation..." Later, Quetzalcoath was defeated and killed in battle by Tezcathipoca. Quetzalcoath, however, regained his hife and then taught the Toltecs their religion, art and culture.

Sometime thereafter, a great religious war occurred in which Quetzalcóatl and the Toltecs were defeated by Tezcatlipoca. It is said that Tezcatlipoca used magic and tricks to defeat and kill them and that he will reign on the earth until the return of Quetzalcóatl.

Known also as the "Sower of Discord," and "Smoking Mirror," Tezcatlipoca is associated with both the Sun and the four directions. The red Tezcalipoca is representative of the west, while blue is south, black north, and white east.

The resemblances of both these gods to Christian ideas of Christ and Satan are curious indeed. --DFG.



Tezcatlipoca from the Codex Borgia

Linedrawing by John Wilson