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U. A. S. NEWSLETTER

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Consulting editor: Ray T. Matheny

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.)

80.0 NEW HOME FOR CAST OF STELA 5. The cast of the "Lehi Tree-of-Life Stone," or Izapa Stela 5, was moved to the Karl G. Maeser Building in February, 1962. The transfer was necessitated by the move of the Department of Archaeology to the ground floor of the Maeser Building from the Eyring Science Center in September, 1961. The "Stone" was not transferred with the Department's equipment because it was noticed that there were several large cracks across it. It was feared that the plaster reproduction might "break up" if an attempt was made to move it.



STELA 5, IN THE JUNGLE OF CHIAPAS

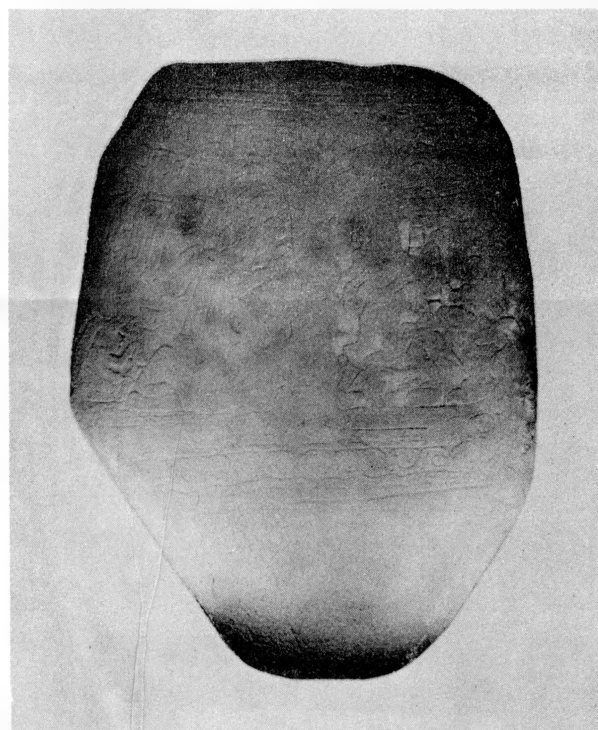
The original monument still lies face up in the jungle at Izapa, southern Mexico, exposed to the elements. In 1958 a B. Y. U. archaeological expedition made a latex mold of the stone and sent it to the campus. A plaster cast was made using the latex mold. The cast was on display for three and one-half years in the Eyring Science Center.

In 1951 Dr. M. Wells Jakeman obtained photographs of the original monument that were taken by Matthew W. Stirling of the Smithsonian Institution in 1941. These photographs showed more detail of the bas-relief features than remained in 1958 when the latex mold was obtained. With great care, Dr. Jakeman made a full-sized drawing reproduction of the carving from the 1941 photographs, and from a first-hand study of the monument made at the site in 1954. When the plaster cast was prepared in 1958, he also touched-up

details on the face of the cast, using the 1941 photographs and the drawing reproduction as guides. These touched-up areas had been obscured on the original monument by 17 years of weathering.



MAKING THE MOLD OF THE CAST OF STELA 5



CAST OF STELA 5, IN MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

At the time of the moving of the Department, it was realized that if the plaster cast should break up in the removal from the Eyring Science Center to the Maeser Building, a great loss would be incurred. The original latex mold has now deteriorated and is no longer usable. If a new mold were to be made of the sculpture at Izapa, it would surely be inferior to the one obtained in 1958 because of the erosion factor. It was therefore decided that the most economical and practical thing to do was to make a latex mold of the present cast before attempting to move it.

Ray T. Matheny and Lawrence O. Anderson began making a new mold by coating the entire front and side surfaces of the cast with liquid latex. Eighteen layers of latex were applied with two alternate layers of cotton gauze. Nearly a week of labor was required in the making of the mold, and with all the attendant details of expense the project cost about \$80.00. This expenditure was, in effect, an insurance policy against the loss of the cast.

Fortunately Stela 5 was moved to its new location without severe damage. Little repair work is required to restore it to its original condition. The new latex mold is now stored, and may eventually be donated to the Mexican National Institute of Anthropology and History, for reproduction and display also of the "Lehi Tree-of-Life Stone" in the National Museum in Mexico City.

80.1 A RECENT STUDY OF BOOK-OF-MORMON GEOGRAPHY. Just One Cumorah, by Riley L. Dixon (Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, Inc., 1958; 174 pp., \$2.25). Reviewed by Clark S. Knowlton.

This book was written to set forth and defend certain conclusions of the author about the nature and history of the movements of the Jaredites, Nephites, and Lamanites from Asia to the Americas. Unfortunately, these conclusions are accompanied by an offensive attack upon the good will and faith of those students of the Book of Mormon whose ideas differ from those of the author.

Surely there is room in the wide field of Book of Mormon studies for the many differing opinions that now exist and for others that will emerge in the future. Time and continued study will separate the true from the false. Indeed, we are quite fortunate to possess so many able scholars within the Church who are providing us with ever increasing amounts of material on the history, archaeology, and cultures of the Book of Mormon peoples. Students of the Book of Mormon should extend tolerance towards each other, and accept the possibility of honest differences of opinion on the part of others of equal faith. Accusations and abuse, so common among totalitarian authors, should have no place in the writings of students of the Scriptures.

The volume itself is divided into four sections. In the first section, the theoretical framework of the book is outlined and a number of questions are posed about the origin of the Jaredites, the Nephites, and the Lamanites, their routes of travel from the Old World to the New, the location of the lands that they settled, their expansion away from the first settlements, and the question of the location of the hill Cumorah. The rest of the book is devoted to the author's answers to these questions.

It is the reviewer's opinion that this is not a significant study. The author shows little acquaintance with the vast amount of archaeological and anthropological research carried on in the Americas during the twentieth century. He seems to rely upon such early writers as De Roo, whose opinions are not now taken seriously by professional Americanists. The continued patient and meticulous work of archaeologists today is establishing a picture of the cultures and peoples of ancient America within which the Book of Mormon groups inevitably must be fitted.

Unfortunately, the apparent lack of knowledge of the author with regard to the actual findings of American archaeology and anthropology is common among certain groups of students whose laudable ambition to establish the geography and history of the Book of Mormon peoples is not supported by knowledge of the sciences involved. It is books of this type that have crippled the development of an authentic field of Book of Mormon studies, and have made the scientific world suspicious of the work of serious Book of Mormon students.

80.2 SOCIETY MEMBERS PUBLISH. Dee F. Green (former editor of the Newsletter) and G. Albin Matson have recently published articles of interest to Society members in The Instructor and the American Anthropologist, respectively.

Mr. Green's article, entitled "Mormonism and Anthropology," appears in the September, 1961, issue of The Instructor, on page 298.

Mr. Matson's article, entitled "Distribution of Hereditary Blood Antigens among American Indians in Middle America: Lacandón and Other Maya," appears in the American Anthropologist for December, 1961, on page 1292.

Both articles are significant to Latter-day Saints and are recommended.

80.3 SOCOTWA. A trip to Mexico City is being planned by Socotwa Expeditions, a tour group in Salt Lake City, from May 26 to June 16. The tour will emphasize archaeology and will visit many sites, including Tula, Teotihuacán, Cuicuilco, Copilco, Ticomán, El

Arbolillo, and Tepoztlán. Various national and local archaeological museums will also be visited.

The group is scheduled to leave by bus and will camp out in order to cut costs. It is planned, however, to include at least three overnight hotel stops in the two-week tour. Total price, including food, transportation, and hotels, is \$130. Those interested may call FR 3-1658, Provo, Utah, for full details and itinerary.

80.4 CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Campus Chapter. Meetings are held every other Wednesday of the month, September through May. Time of the Meeting is 8:00 P. M. ; Room 210, of the Maeser Building, B. Y. U. , Provo, Utah. The officers are:

President	Lawrence O. Anderson
Vice-President	Sandra Working
Honorary President	Dorothy DeWitt
Secretary	Barry Johnson

Salt Lake Chapter. Meetings are held the first Friday evening of each month, September through May. There are occasional exceptions such as April when time is shifted to avoid interference with the General Conference schedule. Time of meeting is 8:00 P. M. The place is Room 20, L. D. S. Institute of Religion, University of Utah, 274 University St. , Salt Lake City. The officers are:

Director	Virgil Peterson
Asst. Director	Darrell Tondro
Secretary	Irene Thorell
Advisors	John W. Simmons
	Eileen Schrick
	Howard Harris
	Jack Jarrard

80.5 ANTHROPOLOGIST VISITS UTAH UNIVERSITY.

Dr. L. S. B. Leakey, discoverer of Zinianthropus boyseii, visited the University of Utah campus, March 30, and delivered a lecture on his latest work in the Oldowai Gorge in Kenya, Africa. Dr. Leakey described his latest discovery of a creature which he designates as a non-human but with some human characteristics. These remains have tentatively been dated by geologic means to approximately 14 million years before the present. Dr. Leakey expects to return to Africa in the near future.

80.6 SCULPTURED MAYA FIGURES. Two beautiful, white, ceramic reproductions, in large scale, of the figures appearing in ancient Maya codices as representations of the god Itzamná (the Maya god of the sky and of life, counterpart of the Toltec-Aztec god Quetzalcóatl) and the goddess Ixchel (consort of Itzamná), have recently been presented to the Depart-

ment of Archaeology by Mrs. Lu C. Fawson of Salt Lake City, a member of the Society and a specialist in ancient art pottery. Hand-sculptured by Mrs. Fawson and mounted on dark-oak wooden panels with gilded framing, the reproductions received first prize in their classification at the Utah State Fair of 1960. They are a valuable addition to the exhibit materials now being accumulated for the archaeological museum on the ground floor of the Karl G. Maeser Building on the B. Y. U. campus (see also Newsletter 79.3, donation of ancient Egyptian frescoes).