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Priests' Dwellings in Teotihuacán

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Abstract: A series of brief comments in which the author presents archaeological findings, architectural notes, and myths and legends that deal indirectly with the Book of Mormon. Dibble discusses the wheel, ancient irrigation methods, metals, Mexican and Mayan codices, Quetzalcoatl, ancient buildings, and numerous other related items. The sixteenth part covers priests' dwellings in Teotihuacán.

Priests' Dwellings in Teotihuacan

By CHARLES E. DIBBLE

Roosevelt Fellow, Institute of International Education

TEOTIHUACAN was a ceremonial center. Around the principal pyramids and temples were symmetrically grouped the habitations of the many priests, whose duty and responsibility it was to appease and favor the gods by presiding over the ceremonies of their intricate cult.

During this year's excavations at Teotihuacan considerable attention has been given to what remains of these priest habitations. A sufficient number have been excavated to indicate the

characteristic elements of the house architecture in this ancient city. Buildings bordered three sides of a central

patio (A). A porch (B) formed the entrance to an inner room (C). As a variant of the standard house plan, rooms were added at each corner (D). Entrance to these rooms was by means of a doorway in each corner. The patio connected with a larger plaza by means of the fourth side (E).

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A TEOTIHUACAN CEREMONIAL SCENE—ABOUT 800 A. D.



THE FLOOR PLAN OF A PRIEST'S HOUSE



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Genealogy

CENTURY OLD TURTLE BECOMES GENEALOGICAL RECORD

Elder Richard L. Gunn
Genealogical Chairman of the
Hawaiian Mission

SEVERAL years ago Richard L. Gunn of Yalecrest Ward, Bonneville Stake, was an outstanding junior genealogist and compiled an excellent Book of Remembrance. In library research he traced along many lines of his ancestry. He is now mission genealogical chairman of the Hawaiian Mission. In connection with directing temple and genealogical activities in that mission, he met with the accompanying interesting experience:

A "leaf" from the family album of John Akiona's family would surprise a good many genealogical enthusiasts of the Church. These particular "pages" aren't bound in conventional family group binders but hang proudly on the walls of his home at Laupahoehoe, Hawaii.

Strange as it may seem, Brother Akiona first found his genealogical record book swimming in the clear waters bordering sunny Hawaii, and with the traditional skill of Hawaii's native sons, captured his prize and landed it. Many a Hawaiian table has been graced with the delicious meat of the giant turtles found in Pacific waters, but Brother Akiona had laid further plans for his turtle. He didn't say how agreeable the turtle was in finding his future was to be linked with genealogy, but his careful



JOHN AKIONA AND HIS DAUGHTER FLORENCE

cleaning and polishing made Mr. Turtle's back a shiny record chart upon which the names of the Akiona family have been inscribed. Later a second "page" followed, estimated to be about one hundred years in age.

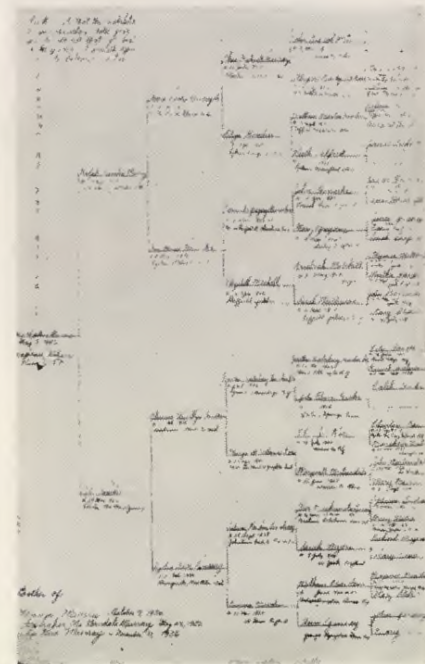
A veteran member of the Church, John Akiona has gained a great respect for the temple and enjoys his studies in *mookuauhau* (genealogy). He is pictured here with his daughter, Florence, holding his family record, an example to other Latter-day Saints in building careful records.

UNIQUE BABY ANNOUNCEMENT

Elder Richard L. Gunn

THE other day one of our genealogical members forwarded to me an announcement of the arrival of a new

baby. I found it to be of great interest. It was in the form of a six-generation pedigree chart beginning on line one with Fay Hopkins Murray, born May 3, 1942; the daughter of Ralph Hamlin Murray and Lila Fancher. The chart gives the names and identification of fifty-eight direct ancestors of the new-born son. (It is interesting to note that many of them in the earliest generation on the chart connect with pedigrees in the Library of the Genealogical Society of Utah.)



Priests' Dwellings in Teotihuacan

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In the better preserved dwellings the walls are still decorated with frescos representing ceremonies, gods, and country scenes. They are precious documents, for they are actual paintings of Indian life well over a thousand years old.

A fresco, which was discovered at the close of the last century and which has since disappeared, presents a Teotihuacan ceremonial scene. To the right and left are two idols representing native deities. Priests are shown in acts of adoration before the idols. The curved symbol at the mouth of various priests is an indication of song or flowery speech.

Important additional frescos have recently been discovered, which will soon be interpreted and published by leading Mexican archeologists.

The Church Moves On

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1910; excommunicated Jan. 13, 1941, in the South Illinois District, Northern States Mission.

Arthur Lee Crandall, born May 17, 1920;

excommunicated July 21, 1941, in the South Indiana District, Northern States Mission.

Chester Joseph Crandall, born Sept. 7, 1895; excommunicated July 21, 1941, in the South Indiana District, Northern States Mission.

Robert Laurence Cummings, born Feb. 25, 1917; (seventy) excommunicated 1941, in the Kauai Branch, Japanese Mission.

William C. Deichmiller, born Apr. 8, 1876; excommunicated July 24, 1941, in the South Illinois District, Northern States Mission.

Nina W. Sims DeYoung, born Oct. 22, 1902; excommunicated Jan. 29, 1941, in the Rapids Branch, Northern States Mission.

Edith Oakley Dobell, born Apr. 26, 1899; excommunicated Jan. 8, 1940, in the Handsworth Branch, British Mission.

Virginia Miller Green, born Dec. 1, 1914; excommunicated Oct. 1, 1941, in the Chinook Branch, Northwestern States Mission.

China M. Guildner, born Feb. 23, 1888; excommunicated June 26, 1941, in the Penchatoula Branch, Texas Mission.

Oscar William Guildner, born Apr. 20, 1905; excommunicated June 26, 1941, in the Hammond Branch, Texas Mission.

Henry James Harmon, born Nov. 19, 1878; (high priest) excommunicated Sept. 28, 1941, in the Vaughn Branch, Northwestern States Mission.

Margaret Leola Bird Harris, born Oct. 29, 1915; excommunicated Oct. 20, 1941, in the Terre Haute Branch, Northern States Mission.

Eugene Houston Henegar, born Apr. 19, 1902; (elder) excommunicated Dec. 12,

1941, in the West Oklahoma District, Central States Mission.

Elsie Reed Henegar, born Aug. 18, 1914; excommunicated Oct. 12, 1941, in the West Oklahoma District, Central States Mission.

E. G. Dunn Hoffman, born Sept. 25, 1912; excommunicated Mar. 28, 1941, in the East Michigan District, Northern States Mission.

Claricy Flynn Hubbs, born Feb. 10, 1894; excommunicated Jan. 13, 1941, in the South Illinois District, Northern States Mission.

M. L. F. Hunt, born Dec. 11, 1910; excommunicated Apr. 16, 1941, in the Rockford Branch, Northern States Mission.

Beatrice Inskup, born Jan. 19, 1905; excommunicated June 12, 1941, in the Peoria Branch, Northern States Mission.

Lorene Edna Kalinski, born Sept. 22, 1913; excommunicated Sept. 11, 1941, in the South Illinois District, Northern States Mission.

Mary E. Lambton, born Feb. 4, 1919; excommunicated June 26, 1941, in the Evansville Branch, Northern States Mission.

Stewart Davis Livingston, born June 8, 1907; excommunicated Jan. 9, 1941, in the York Branch, Eastern States Mission.

Andalina Lujan, born Mar. 10, 1885; excommunicated July 15, 1941, in the Santa Fe Branch, Argentine Mission.

Pedro Martinez, born Oct. 9, 1905; excommunicated 1941, in the San Pedro Branch, Mexican Mission.

Jessie M. S. McIntyre, born May 27, 1900; excommunicated Jan. 8, 1941, in the Evansville Branch, Northern States Mission.

Moirie Alford Measley, born Apr. 27, (Concluded on page 604)