



News & Notes

*Issued confidentially to members and friends
Not for publication*

No. 110 September -October, 1987

READING OTHER PEOPLE'S LETTERS

Since 1985, Museum docent and Archives volunteer Joan G. Rosenberg has been devoting part of her Tuesdays to an ongoing project under the supervision of Museum Archivist John Larson. Joan is organizing and collating the surviving data pertaining to Medinet Habu objects from various sources in the Oriental Institute Archives.

The site of Medinet Habu in Egypt, on the west bank of the Nile opposite the town of Luxor, has been one of the major recording projects of the Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey since its inception in 1924. Before the inscriptions and reliefs on the temple walls could be copied, it was necessary to remove the encumbering débris which had accumulated around the Pharaonic buildings during three millennia of habitation. This was the task of the Architectural Survey of the Oriental Institute, which excavated at Medinet Habu under the direction of German archaeologist Uvo Hölscher from 1926 to 1932. Between 1934 and 1954, five volumes on the excavations at Medinet Habu appeared as a special sub-series in the Oriental Institute Publications series. Three volumes dealt primarily with the architectural remains; the other two concentrated on the 18th Dynasty and the Post-Ramesside Period, respectively.

Thousands of objects, dating from the 18th Dynasty through the Coptic Period, were recovered during the clearance at Medinet Habu. They were divided between the Oriental Institute Museum and the Egyptian Antiquities Organization. Many of the finer pieces are now in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. A catalog of all the excavated objects was planned for the Oriental Institute's publication series, and the assignment was turned over to Rudolf Anthes, a German protégé of Uvo Hölscher, who had also worked at Medinet Habu. Tragically, most of the original field records were in Anthes's possession when his house in Germany burned during World War II.

The records of the Medinet Habu excavations which are preserved in Chicago include a set of annotated photographic prints (but no original field negatives), a fragile handwritten English-language field register of objects translated from the original German, and a set of catalog cards which document some of the more important objects. Joan's long-term project has been organized into a series of phases which began with background readings from published sources. Using the Museum Office Macintosh™ computer, Joan has recently completed transferring the data from the field registers onto diskettes. Phase II will deal with the photographic documentation.



Raising the stone sarcophagus of the High Priest of Amon at Medinet Habu. James Henry Breasted is in middle background.

At an early stage in the project, Joan was asked to skim through selected files in the inactive Director's Office correspondence, which is part of the Oriental Institute Archives. The purpose of this assignment was to determine if there is any pertinent information on the Medinet Habu excavations and objects which might be "buried" in reports and miscellaneous correspondence from the field. While reading primarily for "data," Joan uncovered a number of interesting anecdotes which she thought might interest our Members. The following excerpts have been gleaned from the correspondence of Harold H. Nelson,¹ James Henry Breasted,² and others. The letters and telegrams provide glimpses of life at Chicago House during the period between the establishment of the Epigraphic Survey in 1924 and the (temporary) closing of Chicago House in 1940, due to the outbreak of World War II in Europe. Then, as now, the season was normally mid-October to mid-April.

November, 1924 - Breasted to Nelson

Regarding the staff, I think you have done very well if you have a good cook at £E5 [£E = Egyptian pound; at this time, one Egyptian pound = one British pound = about \$5.00 U.S., *ed.*] and food, and a houseboy at £E 2-1/2 a month. You will certainly have to have a chauffeur and I am glad you have secured one.

continued on page 3

¹ Harold H. Nelson (1878-1954), American Egyptologist, first Field Director of the Epigraphic Survey of the Oriental Institute, 1924-1947.

² James Henry Breasted (1865-1935), American Egyptologist, founder and first Director of the Oriental Institute, 1919-1935.

IN MEMORIAM

KLAUS BAER

June 22, 1930—May 14, 1987

Klaus Baer, Oriental Institute Professor of Egyptology, died of a heart attack at the University of Chicago's Mitchell Hospital on May 14, 1987, at the age of 56. Since he had showed marked improvement in his recovery from an earlier attack, his death came as a shock to those who shared in the hopes and prayers of his devoted wife, Miriam.

Born in Halle, Germany, in 1930, Klaus at an early age emigrated with his parents, first to England and then to the United States. A good part of his childhood before the Second World War was spent on the East Coast, at Princeton and in North Carolina. When his father, Reinhold Baer, received a faculty appointment in the mathematics department at the University of Illinois, the family moved to Champaign-Urbana, where Klaus attended high school and then the University of Illinois. Here he made rapid progress in his undergraduate education, majoring in ancient Greek. Being frequently the only student in his Greek classes, Klaus set his own fast pace and established such a distinguished undergraduate record that he was chosen at the age of seventeen to be co-valedictorian of his university class.

The proximity of Champaign-Urbana to Chicago had permitted the Baer family to make frequent trips to Chicago, where Klaus visited the Oriental Institute Museum and the Field Museum. He would jokingly remark that as a teenager he had accumulated a good amount of radiation from the many times he pressed the button providing an instant X-ray of a mummy that was once the main attraction of the Field Museum's Egyptian collection. Certainly these visits to Chicago had stimulated his early interest in Egyptology, and while he was an undergraduate at Illinois, he undertook the independent study of Egyptian hieroglyphs. Klaus had made so much progress in mastering ancient Egyptian that when he arrived at the University of Chicago in the fall of 1948 to pursue graduate study in Egyptology, he was already able to read lengthy inscriptions. While concentrating in Egyptology, Klaus also took courses in Sumerian and Akkadian.

In 1952 Klaus was awarded a Fulbright fellowship for research in Egypt under the guidance of the noted Egyptian archaeologist, Professor Ahmed Fakhry. These were exciting days for Klaus as he participated in Fakhry's excavations at Saqqara and Giza. During his two-year stay abroad he collected much data from the Old Kingdom tombs, materials which would later be incorporated into his doctoral dissertation. One of the remarkable features about Klaus's Egyptian experience was his rapid mastery of both colloquial and written Arabic. When in Cairo he chose to frequent local cafes rather than seek the company of fellow Americans abroad. Throughout his life Klaus continued perfecting his knowledge of Arabic.

Returning to Chicago in 1954, Klaus set about writing his doctoral dissertation, *Rank and Title in the Old Kingdom*, which was completed in 1958 and published in 1960. In his research on the subject he amassed huge files, a veritable tele-

phone directory of individuals who had lived during the Old Kingdom. While the major thrust of his study was the structure of the bureaucracy and the changes it underwent in the course of time, a valuable by-product of the research was a more precise dating of Old Kingdom tombs.

In 1959 Klaus received an appointment at the University of California, Berkeley. Egyptology had not been particularly active at Berkeley, and much needed to be done in designing a program of instruction. Klaus's pedagogical interests and infectious enthusiasm for his subject contributed toward making Berkeley a major center for Egyptology. His experiences there as Assistant Professor in turn led to a restructuring of the program in Egyptology at Chicago, when he returned to the Oriental Institute as Associate Professor in 1965.

In his research Klaus continued with the publication of a number of learned articles on a wide variety of subjects: agricultural economics, epistolography, chronology, and grammatical problems, to mention a few. A noteworthy achievement was his decipherment of an Old Kingdom letter, Papyrus Boulaq 8, shunned for nearly a century by scholars because of paleographical and philological difficulties. Klaus presented an impeccable translation with an extraordinary commentary, including parallel material from Demotic documents to illustrate the continuity that prevailed in legal aspects of ancient Egyptian marriage for more than two millennia. The word "elegant" well describes Klaus's scholarship, as exhibited in this and other publications.

In 1970 Klaus was named Professor and during his career assumed numerous academic responsibilities, always with a strong sense of commitment. From 1972-75 he served as chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and for several years was also a member of the Archaeological Grants Committee of the Smithsonian Institution. His breadth of knowledge provided him with exceptional judgmental capacity even in areas beyond his own field. Klaus became president of the American Research Center in Egypt in



Klaus Baer

1981. During the three years of his presidency he made annual trips to Egypt, establishing and maintaining the necessary contacts with appropriate authorities and scholars in Egypt. Although he was an Egyptologist, Klaus took very seriously his position as president of the American Research Center and championed the cause of all fields of research conducted under the aegis of this organization.

The impact of Klaus Baer's scholarship in later years was primarily through his teaching and supervision of doctoral dissertations. He regularly offered the course on Egyptian history, and his lectures on the subject for the docent program will long be remembered by Oriental Institute volunteers. For the last decade of his career Klaus had been working on a detailed reappraisal of the chronology of ancient Egypt, and preliminary drafts of his chronological findings were disseminated to scholars here and abroad. Being a perfectionist Klaus hesitated to rush immediately into print, but preferred to await the reactions of colleagues. Another area that he was immensely interested in was Coptic, for which he had prepared a grammar that was continually being refined as he used it in his courses in Coptic. Aside from teaching phases of the Egyptian language, Klaus in recent years even pitched in and taught *koine* Greek.

All who knew Klaus, particularly those who had the privilege of studying with him, will recall his ready accessibility. He maintained a literal "open-door policy," always available to discuss problems with students in all fields. Before a student would present his first paper at a professional meeting, Klaus would insist on carefully reviewing it with the student in order to insure a concisely argued presentation. While this may have involved some sweat on the student's part, the end result was often a publishable article.

Although demanding as a teacher, Klaus was also a devoted friend and supporter of his students and colleagues. When there were personal problems or even financial ones, Klaus was ever ready to lend fatherly advice and support if necessary. He possessed a strong feeling of moral responsibility and good balanced judgment in all matters, not solely academic. Indeed he befriended some who were in quite desperate situations—a fact known only to his closest associates.

Those who regularly conversed with Klaus are well aware of the scope of his interests—there was hardly a subject about which he did not have an informed opinion, for he read broadly in his leisure time. He was quite an expert on railroading, and his books on this topic were not merely the picture books of rail buffs but included serious works on the design and operation of steam locomotives. Klaus had an insatiable appetite for learning the why's and how's of phenomena.

For relaxation Klaus and Miriam enjoyed vacationing in Door County, Wisconsin, and during the winter regularly attended the opera in Chicago. They both loved to spend a Friday evening experimenting in dining out at some of the more exotic restaurants in town. That Klaus often recounted episodes of his experiences shows how he enjoyed life to the fullest extent. We all will very much miss the companionship of one who always had something to contribute to the enhancement of our own lives.

Edward F. Wente

continued from page 1

December, 1924 - Nelson to Breasted

I am employing three men at the temple, paying them six piasters [100 piasters = one Egyptian pound, *ed.*] each a day and one piaster each extra for sleeping on the scaffoldings and ladders. That should make the temple reasonably secure, especially as the *gaffirs* [guards, *ed.*] keep a dog. I have put up a small wooden room behind the gaffir's hut in which we can lock the smaller stuff. I propose to secure a stout chain and padlock and chain the ladders each night to the side of the wooden room. When I proposed to one of the men . . . that he should remain at the temple alone, he said . . . he was afraid of the "afrit" [ghost or spirit, *ed.*].



West Bank Chicago House at inundation.

October, 1925 - Nelson to Breasted

The water [the annual inundation of the Nile, which no longer occurs since the completion of the Aswan High Dam in 1971, *ed.*] is up to the top of our front wall. If it were two or three inches higher, much of our land would be flooded. We have made a raft and Hartman³ is going . . . to take a few photographs.

There seem to be fewer scorpions about than last year. So far we have found only twelve in the house.

October, 1925 - Nelson to Breasted

Yesterday the thermometer reached a maximum in the shade of 106° and a minimum of 89°. Come out and fry with us for a while.

January, 1926 - Breasted to Nelson (telegram)

HAVE RESERVED YOU A ROOM, SEMIRAMIS [a popular tourist hotel in Cairo, *ed.*]. DINNER COAT USEFUL.

March, 1926 - Nelson to T. George Allen⁴

It is now a close race between the temperature and the scorpions. So far the scorpions are ahead for they number 102 while the thermometer indicates only 100°. I do not know which will win.

continued on page 4

³ John Hartman (d. 1926), Austrian photographer; photographer for the Coffin Texts Project, 1922; first field photographer for the Oriental Institute in the Near East, serving with the Epigraphic Survey, 1924-1926.

⁴ T. George Allen (1885-1969), American Egyptologist, specialist in the study of ancient Egyptian funerary literature; Editorial Secretary of the Oriental Institute, 1927-1950.

continued from page 3

June, 1926 - Breasted to Nelson

I spent last Sunday with Mr. Rosenwald⁵ at his country place in Ravinia, Highland Park . . . While we were going about Mr. R.'s beautiful place, he showed us a screened-in terrace with a fountain and flowers and idyllic look, and, waving his hand . . . he said, "That's what we will do for Chicago House some day."

November, 1926 - Nelson to Breasted

This coming week there is to be a big celebration at Luxor connected with the opening of the wide-gauge railroad between Aswan and Luxor.

1927 - Nelson to Breasted

Lots of anti-German feeling.

September, 1927 - Breasted to Nelson

(re.: use of powdered milk vs. boiling local milk)

If we go ahead with the local milk . . . the rule for boiling it is absolutely inviolable and the cook who neglects it shall be sacked without ceremony.

October, 1927 - Nelson to Breasted

I have prepared the water sample . . . in connection with the purchase of a water softener. The same is contained in eight Evian bottles. These I have corked and sealed with sealing wax.

Just at present the water is up in front of the house and consequently is running directly into the well.

October, 1927 - Nelson to Breasted

Everyone speaks of a very hot summer here but the thermometer . . . only registers 112° as a maximum for the summer. The water has only just begun to rise, the river being low this year. Consequently the water will be on the land not more than four weeks, a good thing for us.

November, 1927 - Nelson to Breasted

There has developed a sudden desire on the part of the household to study Hieroglyphics. Edgerton⁶, Wilson⁷ and I are all conducting classes two evenings a week. I am glad to secure a little experience teaching Egyptian in view of the probable work at Chicago this coming summer.

December, 1927 - Nelson to Breasted

(re.: land purchase for East Bank Chicago House)

. . . after we purchased the *sakia* [water wheel with buckets attached, *ed.*], a new regulation was put into force. By this it seems that anyone buying land, . . . anyone not a native must have his right to hold land registered before the Egyptian or British consul.

The new water heater has just arrived. I hope to get it installed shortly. The Frigidaire is working successfully, the coils being covered with frost. I have constructed a cooler in the tank room, a small cupboard in which two *zeers* [large pottery jars, *ed.*] are placed and which is quite cool . . . for drinking water bottles (but not for beer).

⁵ Julius Rosenwald (1862-1932), American merchant and philanthropist; Chairman of Sears, Roebuck and Company, 1925-1932; donated funds for the Library and building additions at Chicago House, 1926; established the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, 1929.

⁶ William F. Edgerton (1893-1970), American Egyptologist, specialist in the study of ancient Egyptian Demotic and the history of the Egyptian language; taught at the University of Chicago, 1926-1959.

⁷ John A. Wilson (1899-1976), American Egyptologist; Director of the Oriental Institute, 1936-1946; taught at the University of Chicago, 1931-1968.



Lift on wall of Medinet Habu of the type used by the Queen of the Belgians in March, 1930.

January, 1928 - Nelson to Breasted

We recently placed a guard at the tomb of the High Priest of Amon [probably the tomb of Horsiese, 22nd Dynasty, *ed.*] which we have just opened. The cold weather . . . makes it desirable to furnish the guards with some shelter. . . . the tent need not be very large and certainly not at all ornate. A small round tent with low sides and of strong but simple construction would be the best.

April, 1928 - Nelson to Breasted

On January 19, 1928 I purchased . . . one second hand tent for use in connection with the Medinet Habu excavations. For this I paid to the Department of Police, Cairo, the sum of P.T. 330 [P.T. = piasters, *ed.*], plus P.T. 20 fees

April, 1928 - Nelson to Breasted

I have come to the firm conviction that it will be almost impossible for us to attempt to do [epigraphy at] Karnak from this house ["Old" Chicago House on the West Bank of the Nile, *ed.*], even if we had a motor launch. We would lost individually at least two working hours a day

September, 1928 - Breasted to Nelson

I have also assumed the role of music critic and spent an afternoon at Lyon & Healy's in Chicago as a result of which I listened to myriad records, selecting at least 64, nicely divided between mellifluous jazz of the less strident kind and some very delightful classical things of the sort which will gratify the cosmopolitan tastes of Chicago House. The total cost of these 64 records, plus one box of tungsten and one box of steel needles is \$90.90

September, 1928 - Breasted to Nelson

I enclose . . . a list of the records which . . . I had purchased. You will note that it is fairly evenly divided between jazz records (which cost \$.75) and classical pieces, . . . these costing somewhat more per record. [List of records attached is quite interesting—ranging from Paul Whiteman and Guy Lombardo to Rachmaninoff and Paderewski, *ed.*].

April, 1929 - Nelson to Breasted

At this point I interrupt this letter to attend to a snake about a yard long that the *farrash* [a member of the native housestaff, *ed.*] just found in the draughting room

The snake is now safely in a bottle in M.'s room for [he] seems to have a passion for snakes.

April, 1929 - Nelson to Breasted

The difficulty with the water in our well is assuming serious proportions The water is now almost as yellow-green as Rose's Lime Juice Cordial. I fear that the fluorescein is generated in the old *sakia*, now located under our bedroom.

August, 1929 - Breasted to Nelson

I am inclined to think you are right regarding the advisability of using coal for cooking purposes. Gasoline or kerosene are dangerous fuels in the hands of even the best native servants.

September, 1929 - Nelson to Breasted

The river is so high that the road in front of the Winter Palace [a popular tourist hotel on the East Bank of the Nile at Luxor, *ed.*] is damp from the water It took me half an hour to cross the river. I am going across to look at our new land and see if it is flooded. If there is no water on it this season, we need not fear for the future.

October, 1929 - Nelson to Charles Breasted⁸

Two days ago I sent you a cable as follows: PLEASE SEND NEW SOUND BOX FOR OUR ORTHOPHONIC VICTROLA.

Our present sound box is out of commission owing to the hardening of a rubber washer.

October, 1929 - Nelson to Breasted

The new artesian well is completed.

October, 1929 - Nelson to Charles Breasted

P.S. We caught a big cobra today in one of the magazines. He was fast in a mouse trap, or rather rat trap. Pleasant neighbors!

December, 1929 - Breasted to Nelson

Quite on his own initiative J. D. Jr.⁹ is expecting to make the Nile voyage this winter, and I shall of course have to go along. All arrangements for a private steamer for the Nile trip and a subsequent journey to Palestine have been made.

March, 1930 - Nelson to Breasted

We have been having great excitement here—we have been entertaining royalty. I received two notes on Friday . . . informing me that H.M. The Queen of the Belgians,¹⁰ would visit Medinet Habu the next day Not being used to having such august visitors, the whole household was greatly roused. The Queen is here with her suite

⁸ Charles Breasted (1897-1980), eldest child of James Henry Breasted; Executive Secretary of the Oriental Institute, 1927-1936; first science editor of *Life Magazine*; published a biography of his father, entitled *Pioneer to the Past*, 1943.

⁹ John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (1874-1960), American industrialist and philanthropist. Mr. Rockefeller's generous financial support made possible the establishment and early maintenance of the Oriental Institute in Chicago, its archaeological field expeditions, and publications. In 1929, together with his wife and son David, he visited Egypt, Palestine and Syria with James Henry Breasted.

¹⁰ Élisabeth, Queen of the Belgians, wife of King Albert I; served as the official patroness for the Belgian Egyptological organization, La Fondation Égyptologique Reine Élisabeth, founded by the Belgian Egyptologist Jean Capart in 1923; made a state visit to Egypt with her husband in 1930.

. . . and having received . . . a royal command, there was nothing to do but give up the time to her. It cost us practically a day.

. . . the authorities closed M.H. to visitors this morning. We had the place cleaned up and were on hand at the gate to receive the Queen. The most exciting part [of her visit] was her ascension in the lift.

When the Queen saw [the epigrapher on the lift] she expressed a desire to make the ascension [*sic*] herself. So I called [the epigrapher] down, presented him and assisted the Queen into the chair. The following five minutes or so were about the most anxious ones of my life. The iron beam from which the chair was hung was not very well placed. Moreover she insisted on keeping her feet close together instead of apart and walked constantly toward the lift so that she had the rope hanging down at an angle from the beam. I was afraid she would lose her balance and swing around sidewise against the wall. I forgot all forms of address and urged her to keep her feet apart. I presume even a queen may enjoy being addressed like any other woman at times. It was a curious sight to see her in the chair, a photographer about on the edge of the pylon taking pictures downward, another on either side and one or two of her party in the rear also with cameras. Sadik¹¹ was standing directly under the chair with his arms extended up in a good old Egyptian attitude of adoration, ready to catch her if she fell, I presume.

I also had my mouth open as I stood below gazing upwards The whole thing went off successfully but I would not like to try it again.

From the temple we returned to the house where the household were assembled . . . they were presented to the Queen. Altogether it was a very successful occasion, though I hope we do not have many more such.

Thank fortune, the King of the Belgians¹² who is coming along soon I believe, is not likely to visit us. One such visit is enough for a season. But we did not disgrace ourselves at any rate.

July, 1930 - Breasted to Nelson

Yesterday morning we laid the corner stone of the new Oriental Institute building. In the box we deposited . . . a group of books, monographs . . . which included the work of nearly all the members of the Institute and of course you were yourself duly represented. When the world is a thousand years or more older . . . the archaeologists of the future may therefore find your name in the corner stone!



Private steamer "Serapis" used by Rockefeller's for Nile trip. Photo by Florence L. Miller.

continued on page 6

¹¹ Sadik, a member of the native staff of the Epigraphic Survey.

¹² Albert I (1875-1934), King of the Belgians, 1909-1934; led the Belgian Army during World War I and guided his nation's post-war economic recovery.

continued from page 5

December, 1930 - Nelson to Breasted

The King¹³ visited Luxor the other day . . . There were great "goings on" with an official laying of the corner stone of a First Aid hospital and a reception on the royal yacht. I received invitations to both, but could not attend as I was doubled at right angles with lumbago. I was glad to escape but would have gone for the sake of the connection . . .

February, 1931 - Nelson to Breasted

I have received through the Belgium Legation information that I have been made Chevalier de l'Ordre de Leopold and have received the insignia as well. This is somewhat overwhelming. I can see myself compelled to appear in public with a large, though tasteful, decoration pinned to the front of my coat while I am thinking . . . of the holes the pins . . . are making.

April, 1932 - Breasted to Nelson

Since December 5, when the Institute was opened, we have had over thirty-one thousand visitors in the building.

October, 1934 - Nelson to Breasted

I was interrupted at this point of my letter by a shot just outside the draughting rooms. On going out, I found that one of the guards had shot a cobra by the steps. This makes the twelfth cobra killed inside our grounds since last April.

January, 1938 - Nelson to Wilson

(re.: visit of the young King Farouk)

[We] might sell Chicago House to him for a winter residence. The king¹⁴ will visit Medinet Habu. The town is marvelously decorated.

September, 1938 - Nelson to Wilson

The river is over the top of the revetment in front of our house. It also entered the grounds of the Luxor Hotel [about a city block "in-land" from the Luxor corniche, the riverside road on the East Bank of the Nile, *ed.*]. It is only a temporary embankment that has been thrown up . . . that saves the whole of Luxor from being inundated.

October, 1938 - Nelson to Wilson

Things now look quieter, especially since Czechoslovakia seems to be making concessions to both Poland and Hungary. All this is . . . at tremendous cost and does not solve the future.

October, 1938 - Nelson to Wilson

Karnak is thoroughly wet. In the Hypostyle Hall the ground is too soft to work on. The lake is within about a foot of the top of the inclosing wall.

December, 1938 - Nelson to Wilson

The European situation does not seem to improve but, if anything, grows worse.

April, 1939 - Nelson to Wilson

I am shipping to the Field Museum a few more bats and a bunch of bugs of various sizes. I have a live lizard and three field mice in my study. The lizard I may try to bring back alive.

May, 1940 - Nelson to Wilson

Italy certainly seems to be making the most of her nuisance value but there is always the possibility that it may turn into something more serious. At any rate I am bringing home with me all the (field) records possible. . . . We shall have twenty-one or more pieces of baggage.

June, 1940 - Wilson to Nelson

I can't tell you how good it is to know that you are in this country and successfully out of the Mediterranean . . . as our papers carried word of the crowded conditions on the *Excambion* [the steamship on which Nelson returned to the U.S., *ed.*].

LECTURE SCHEDULE

We have not yet completed our lecture schedule for the coming year. A separate card with the list of lectures will be sent to you shortly. Lectures are at 8 p.m. in Breasted Hall at the Oriental Institute. Reminders of the upcoming lectures will be printed in each issue of *News & Notes*. Institute members may make dinner reservations at the Quadrangle Club, 1155 East 57th Street, 753-3696 before membership lectures. They will bill the Oriental Institute and we, in turn, will bill you. Please print your name and address at the bottom of your dinner check, as well as signing it, so that we know where to send your bill.

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| October 7, 1987 | Opening Lecture—see announcement elsewhere in this issue. |
| November 12, 1987 | Magen Broshi, Curator of the Shrine of the Book, Israel Museum, Jerusalem, <i>The Dead Sea Scrolls Today</i> . |

FALL 1987 MEMBERS' COURSE

Egyptian History: Ramesside Period

This course is part of the continuing series in ancient Egyptian History, which has already covered the preceding periods. While priority for enrollment will be given to those who are continuing in the series, there are limited spaces for people who wish to join the series at this point. For further information or to inquire about enrollment, call Joan Barghusen, Museum Education Coordinator at 702-9507.

Amarna Symposium

An all-day symposium exploring the topic of the Amarna Period—the people, the place, the historical period, the religious ideas—is being planned for Saturday, November 7, 1987, at the Oriental Institute. Watch for further information which will come to you in a separate mailing.

¹³ Fuad I (1868-1936), Sultan of Egypt under a British protectorate, 1917-1922; King of "independent" Egypt, subject to strong British influence in Egyptian affairs, 1922-1936.

¹⁴ Farouk I (1920-1965), son of Fuad I; King of Egypt, 1936-1952.

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

Cordially Invites You to the
Opening Lecture

*Monsters, Demons, and Other
Figures of Ancient Mesopotamian Art*
by
Edith Porada
Columbia University

Wednesday, October 7, 1987
at 8:00 PM

Breasted Hall, The Oriental Institute
and a Reception following
in the Museum

*Admission is free
but seating is limited.
Please write or telephone
to make a reservation by
Wednesday, September 30.*

*Membership Office
The Oriental Institute
1155 East 58th Street
702-9513*



MEMBERS DAY October 4, 1987 12:00–4:00 P.M.

The Institute opens its doors to the Membership
This is a wonderful opportunity
to meet Faculty and Staff
There will be tours of the basement laboratories
The Museum offices will be open
Children's Activities—Movies
Refreshments will be provided

AND MUCH MORE

COME AND JOIN THE FUN

The SUQ will offer a 15% discount-
MEMBERS' DAY only—to members.





NEW POSTER AVAILABLE FROM THE MUSEUM

A new four-color poster produced in conjunction with the exhibition *Site Drawings by Martyl: The Precinct of Mut at Luxor*, is now available by mail. The poster, which was printed in a one time edition of 1500, features the acrylic entitled *Sakhmet*, by Chicago area artist Martyl.

Sakhmet "The Powerful," was represented in the form of a woman with the head of a lioness. At Karnak, Sakhmet was identified with the Theban mother-goddess Mut, the consort of Amun-Ra.

All of the drawings in the exhibition, which had its final showing at the Oriental Institute Museum, were created by Martyl in her Schaumburg studio, after spending two months with the Brooklyn Museum's archaeological excavation at the precinct of Mut in Luxor, Egypt.

The poster measures 20" x 24" and is available from the Museum Office. Poster(s) signed by Martyl \$25 each, unsigned \$16 each. Illinois residents, please add 8% sales tax. Postage and handling for *each* poster by first class mail \$4, overseas airmail \$7.

All orders must be prepaid in US funds. Make checks payable to *The Oriental Institute*.

Address orders to:
Poster Sales
Oriental Institute Museum Office
1155 East 58th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637

The printing of this poster was made possible by
The Playboy Foundation.

HIEROGLYPHS-BY-MAIL TO BEGIN NOVEMBER 1

The Introductory Hieroglyphs-by-Mail course taught by Frank Yurco will begin November 1. It will consist of ten lessons. As you complete each lesson and return it to the instructor, he will correct the exercises, answer any questions you might have, and return them to you along with the next lesson. It will take about twenty weeks to complete the course.

The two necessary texts will be Gardiner's *Egyptian Grammar* and Faulkner's *Middle Egyptian Dictionary*, both of which can be ordered from the Suq. Current prices for books are \$46 for Gardiner and \$30 for Faulkner, but **prices are subject to change**.

Tuition is \$80 plus the annual membership fee of \$20 (\$25 in the Chicago area). Please register by October 23.

Please enroll me in the

Egyptian Hieroglyphs-by-Mail course.

My check for \$80 is enclosed

I am a member

I enclose a *separate* check for annual membership

I would like to order Gardiner's *Egyptian Grammar* from the Suq and enclose a separate check (price: \$46.00 less 10% member discount, plus 8% sales tax if shipped to Illinois address, plus \$3.00 shipping charge).

I would like to order Faulkner's *Dictionary* from the Suq, and enclose payment (price: \$30.00 less 10% member discount, plus 8% sales tax if shipped to Illinois address, plus \$2.50 shipping charge).

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

Please make all checks payable to the Oriental Institute with *separate* checks for tuition, membership and Suq. Return to Education Office, Oriental Institute, 1155 E. 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637 (312) 702-9507

HUMANITIES OPEN HOUSE

Eight special tours will be offered at the Oriental Institute Museum as part of the University of Chicago's annual *Humanities Open House* on Saturday, October 10. Tour topics range from the always popular "Pyramids and Mummies" to the more esoteric "Alexander in the East" and a new offering by

Egyptologist John Larson, Museum Archivist, "Nothing New Under the Sun," in which he will compare some ancient Egyptian artifacts and their modern counterparts. Most tours are given by experienced docents who bring special expertise to the subjects of their tours. The *Humanities Open House*, which attracts several hundred participants each year, is open to all friends of the University. Admission is free, but participants must register and sign up for the events they wish to attend.

Approximately fifty different activities are scheduled, featuring faculty members throughout the Division of the Humanities. For further information about Humanities Open House, write or call *Humanities Open House*, The University of Chicago, 1050 E. 59th St., 60637, 702-8494.

CLIMATE CONTROL FOR THE MUSEUM

Those who have visited the Oriental Institute during these past hot summer days will be glad to hear that the Institute is investigating the possibilities of climate control for the Museum and its collections. Lack of climate control has caused irreversible damage to some objects, and is endangering many others. A grant for establishing climate control in a section of the basement devoted to organic materials has already been received, as has some seed money for the project as a whole. Those who wish to make a special gift to help us in this endeavor should send a check, payable to the Oriental Institute, to the Membership Office, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637.

FREE SUNDAY MOVIES AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

All films will be shown at 2 p.m. in Breasted Hall

- SEPTEMBER 6 Of Time, Tombs and Treasure
13 The Egyptologists
20 Iran: Landmarks in the Desert
27 Iraq: Stairway to the Gods
- OCTOBER 4 Egypt: Gift of the Nile
11 Megiddo: City of Destruction
18 Preserving Egypt's Past
25 Egypt's Pyramids
- NOVEMBER 1 The Big Dig
8 Turkey: Crossroads of the Ancient World
15 Champollion: Egyptian Hieroglyphs
22 Deciphered
29 Rivers of Time
Myth of the Pharaohs/Ancient Mesopotamia

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 1988 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOUR TO EGYPT March 9-27, 1988

Our tour to Egypt will be led by Robert K. Ritner, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Egyptology at the Oriental Institute. A popular lecturer on Egyptian themes, Ritner has accompanied several Institute tours to Egypt. The trip will provide a fascinating look at the art, history, and culture which originated in the Nile Valley over 5,000 years ago. The trip will feature a five-day Nile cruise on a Sheraton ship. A complete itinerary is available from the Membership Office. The cost of the trip from Chicago is:

Land arrangements	\$2390
Round trip air fare from Chicago (APEX)	\$922
Single supplement, hotels only	\$350
Single supplement, hotels and ship	\$650

plus a \$350 tax-deductible contribution to the Oriental Institute. This includes deluxe accommodations. A \$400 deposit is required at the time of booking.

Arrangements may be made beforehand with the travel agent (Archaeological Tours) to travel in Europe or the Near East before or after the tour. Archaeological Tours will be glad to help you with these arrangements but you will be responsible for any additional travel costs or surcharges.

Information on all tours is available from the Membership Office, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60637. (312) 702-9513.

Please enroll me/us in the Institute's 1988 Archaeological Tour to Egypt: March 9-27, 1988

- Share room (with?)
 Single room
 Send detailed itinerary

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime telephone _____

Home telephone _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ (\$400 per person) as a deposit to hold my/our place, payable to

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS, INC.

Mail to: Membership Office, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637 (312) 702-9513.

THE SUQ سوق

Direct from Egypt

Inlaid wooden box. This lovely, handmade box is made of wood and inlaid in mother of pearl with intricate geometric designs. Measuring approx. 3 1/4" × 4 3/4" and 1 3/4" deep, it will hold your collectibles nicely.

\$18.00 (members **\$16.20**) postage \$2.00

Nefertiti Tablecloth. Made of Egyptian cotton, this is a very colorful and festive tablecloth decorated with the profile of the head of Nefertiti and scenes from the throne of King Tut. It measures approx. 84" × 60" and includes 6 napkins.

\$10.50 (members **\$9.00**) postage \$2.00

Harrania Rugs. Handmade by the children of the Wissa Wassef school in Egypt, these rugs should be seen to be appreciated. The designs are simple (birds, camels, donkeys, houses and palm trees), but very charming. Each one is unique and the colors and sizes vary. The smallest are 18" × 39" **\$45.00** (members **\$40.50**) and the largest are 36" × 48" **\$99.00** (members **\$89.10**). We will gladly ship on approval to members for the cost of shipping. (\$2.00 each). Please specify preferences as to style and color so that we may choose the best rug for you.



The Oriental Institute

The University of Chicago
1155 East 58th Street . Chicago, Illinois . 60637

Dated Material

Reproductions from the British Museum

Hieroglyph Tie. A man's necktie of pure silk, decorated with the hieroglyphs for life, prosperity, and health. Navy hieroglyphs on gray or red hieroglyphs on navy.

\$29.95 (members **\$26.95**) postage \$2.00

Lotus Flower Tie. A man's necktie of pure silk, decorated with designs from Egyptian border motifs. May be ordered with either brown or gray accents.

\$38.95 (members **\$35.05**) postage \$2.00

Wool Shawl. Made from pure, lightweight, new wool with self-fringed edges. Decorated with Egyptian lotus and papyrus motifs. 54" × 54". May be ordered with either a blue or a black background.

\$67.00 (members **\$60.30**) postage \$2.00

Hieroglyph Tote. A plastic, zippered totebag measuring approximately 16" × 11". On a black background are printed white hieroglyphs from the tomb of Ptahshepses at Saqqara.

\$16.00 (members **\$14.40**) postage \$2.00

Illinois residents please add 8% tax

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