

Book Reviews

The March of Archaeology. C. W. Ceram. Knopf, New York, 1958. xviii + 326 pp. Illus. \$15.

This latest work from the facile pen of Ceram is a companion volume to his earlier *Gods, Graves, and Scholars* and was planned in conjunction with that book. The pattern is similar, and the contents include the same general subject matter. In the present instance, however, the story is mainly told by pictures, the text being held to a minimum. The illustrations used were selected after long and careful sorting of pictorial material in institutions both in this country and abroad. Many are reproductions of new photographs, published for the first time. For the earlier periods of archeological activity, the excavation work and many of the finds are illustrated by contemporary drawings and engravings, while excavation work and finds relative to recent researches are depicted in excellent photographs.

For the most part, the archeology reviewed by Ceram is that generally referred to as "classic." This is attributable to his purpose in preparing the book—namely, the tracing of the historical and cultural continuity extending from Sumeria through Babylon, Assyria, Crete, Greece, and Rome to modern times. There is no reference to or discussion of the vast field of prehistoric archeology and the unraveling of the story of the cultural growth which led to the tremendous revolution in man's way of life that occurred in the New Stone Age, when he became a food producer instead of a food gatherer and was able to turn his efforts to things which culminated in the art objects and great cities described by Ceram.

In Book I the story begins with the finding in 1485, by workmen along the Appian Way, of a sarcophagus containing the perfectly preserved body of a girl of ancient Rome; it continues on through the discovery of the buried cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum and the part played by Johann Joachim Winckelmann in helping archeology get under way as a scholarly study of antiquity; it follows Heinrich Schliemann in his search for and finding of fabled Troy, his excavations there, and the subsequent completion of the Schliemann projects

at Troy, Mycenae, and Tiryns by Arthur Evans.

Book II pertains to Egypt and starts with the observations of the German traveler Johannes Hellfrich, made in 1565, when he first saw the sphinx near the great pyramids; discusses the significance of the Egyptian sphinx and the work of numerous men who have tried to solve its riddle; describes the various pyramids and explains their purpose; gives careful consideration to the subject of mummies and mummification; and reviews the extensive excavations in the tombs in the Valley of the Kings, from the days of frankly acknowledged looting to the most recent and strictly scientific digging. Attention is also given to hieroglyphs, to the Rosetta stone, and to the deciphering of Egyptian inscriptions.

In Book III stories of early travelers to Babylon and Persepolis are recounted, the problems involved in the decipherment of cuneiform script are presented, and the excavations by Austen Henry Layard in the palaces of Nineveh, by Robert Koldewey at Babylon, and by Leonard Woolley at Ur are described. In the case of the latter there is reference to the methods employed in digging and preserving archeological materials.

The author digresses from his general Old World theme in Book IV and considers Middle American archeology—that is, the manifestations in Mexico and Central America. In that connection he reviews the first accounts of the conquest of Mexico, illustrating his remarks with pictures from native manuscripts recording the event, and tells how the Spaniards almost wiped out all possibility of understanding the history of the area by their methodical extirpation of the Indian culture. The impression made by the first specimens of Indian art to reach Europe is described, and several pictographic native manuscripts are considered in detail. Attention is given to the work of the early explorers Kingsborough, Waldeck, Stephens, and Catherwood, and illustrations from their publications are an important feature of the book. Reference is made to the important studies of the Abbé Brasseur de Bourbourg and, of course, to the more recent investigations by scholars from the United States and Mexico. The possibility of Egyptian and East Indian influ-

ences is reviewed, and the objections of Americanists to such ideas are mentioned.

Book V is devoted to retrospect and perspective and includes a chronological table of the history of archeology as it is delineated in the pages of this volume. In it the author points out that the 322 illustrations show Western man's growing awareness of his own past and illustrate the fact that, as more knowledge becomes available, the past is assuming wider and more global meanings. With respect to new discoveries he mentions the Dead Sea scrolls, recent finds in Jericho, the new information on the Hittites, wall frescoes in the Maya area, and the results now being obtained from underwater archeology and aerial surveys.

In his introduction Ceram calls attention to the fact that this volume, like its predecessor, is a literary work rather than a scientific one. In that he is correct. The lay reader no doubt will find much of interest in this "picture book to be read" and should add to his fund of knowledge by perusing it. Specialists may find some items which will be new to them. The chronological table will be useful for purposes of reference, although there may be disagreement about the importance of some of the discoveries which are included and about the omission of others. The numerous black and white illustrations are well chosen, and the 16 color plates, showing a wide variety of subjects, are unusually good.

As the publishers suggest, those who have read *Gods, Graves, and Scholars* will unquestionably enjoy this book, but it should prove equally enjoyable to those who are not familiar with its predecessor. It deals with art and archeology rather than with straight archeology, and for that reason it will no doubt be well received by the general reader.

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Queues, Inventories and Maintenance.

The analysis of operational systems with variable demand and supply. Philip M. Morse. Wiley, New York; Chapman and Hall, London, 1958. ix + 202 pp. Illus. \$6.50.

This is the first of what should be a very useful series of publications in the field of operations research. It is planned as a kind of expanded introduction to queuing theory; a second monograph is to be devoted to computational methods, machine techniques, and numerical tables applicable to the problems discussed in the present book. A possible third volume will be concerned with detailed solutions (with tables) of main-