

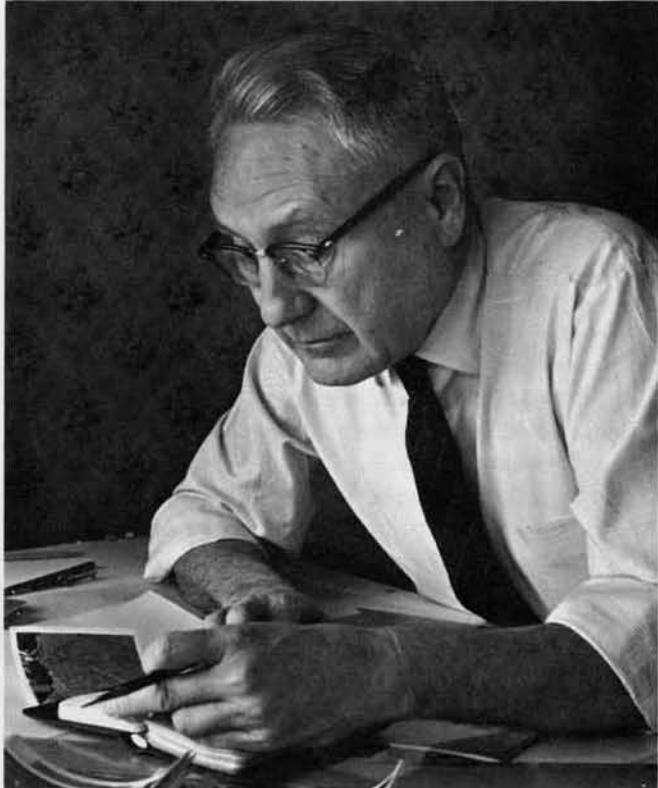
The Oriental Institute

News & Notes

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RICHARD CARLTON HAINES
December 22, 1904—February 15, 1977

Richard Carlton Haines—known always to his field companions and colleagues as Carl—died on February 15th at the age of 72. With a B. Arch. from Carnegie Tech in 1928, he began a short-lived career in an architect's office, short-lived because of the onset of the '29 depression. In April of 1930 he was appointed field assistant-architect to the Institute's Anatolian Expedition at Alishar in central Turkey. Henceforth, with only the break around the world War II years, he remained with the Institute until his retirement in 1972 and he was still at work on field reports when he died. As his field competence and experience increased, he was assigned to a number of different Institute expeditions. Indeed, it was

one of Carl's accomplishments to have worked successively in Turkey, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Israel, and finally again in Iraq. None of the rest of us can match that! As his career advanced, he moved from the category of raw field hand to the directorship of the big Nippur expedition and he also became, without question, the dean of American archeological architects for the Near Eastern region.

Carl had the happy temperament and the patience and unflapability of an ideal field man. I cannot resist the story of his first field task. Asked by the great Mustafa Kemal Atatürk to make measured drawings of the ruins of a once fine Roman bath, von der Osten, the Alishar field director, took the newly arrived Carl Haines to the site. He arranged with the village storekeeper for a place for Carl's cot in the backroom of the store and for food to be supplied daily, and then left Carl alone to the task of making the drawings. That first night, Carl came back to the store and found dinner set out on a folding table at his cot, with a beaming storekeeper and several hangers-on bowing him to it. Carl enjoyed his dinner and sat back contently. The storekeeper and hangers-on smiled; Carl smiled back. The storekeeper asked, "Rahat mi?" With less than a week in Turkey and no Turkish beyond "yes," "no," and a few numbers, Carl was baffled, but reasoned they could only be asking whether he wanted more food. He smiled, patted his stomach and said "Hayir" ("No"). They seemed somewhat baffled themselves but presently asked again; Carl smiled again and said "Hayir." This situation continued until the end of the week, when von der Osten came back for him. Carl asked what in Heaven's name "Rahat mi" meant. "Oh," said Osten, "it means 'Are you comfortable?'"

Carl's success, however, was due to more than patience and unflapability alone. He loved the work he was doing and he genuinely liked the people he worked with, down to the lowest rank of workmen. Although he was never academically ambitious, he became a highly appreciated teacher. Above all, he did very much to increase our knowledge of the human past which is, after all, this Institute's real concern.

We shall sadly miss him.

Robert J. Braidwood

RICHARD CARLTON HAINES

Richard C. Haines, Assistant Professor Emeritus and Field Architect, Oriental Institute and Assistant Professor Emeritus, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations died of lung cancer Tuesday morning, February 15 in Cape May Court-house, New Jersey.

Carl Haines was born December 22, 1904 in Tabernacle, New Jersey. He received his degree in architecture in 1928 from Carnegie Institute of Technology, then worked as a draftsman for two years before joining the Oriental Institute as Field Architect at excavations at Alishar in central Turkey. In 1932 he was transferred to the Syrian Expedition and in 1937 to the Persepolis Expedition in Iran. From 1942 to 1948 he was on leave of absence for national service during the Second World War, but from 1946 to 1948 he did some drawing for the Persepolis Expedition while still on leave. In 1949 he returned to the Institute to work on the Iraq Expedition at Nippur, eventually not only as field architect but as Director of Excavations. In 1952-53 Haines was additionally involved in excavations at Khirbat Kerak in Israel, but his primary activity remained with the excavations of Nippur, a sacred city during millennia of ancient history in Mesopotamia. Between field seasons, Haines taught in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and worked on the preparation of drawings and writing of field reports.

After 1965 Mr. Haines devoted himself to preparing several excavation volumes for publication and even delayed his retirement for two years for the purpose. In 1972, when he retired, he and his family moved to New Jersey. At the time of his death, he was working on the publication of Nippur III.

He is survived by his wife, Irene, and two children, Richard Carleton and Alice E. Clark. Both children now reside in San Diego, California.



MONEY IN MESOPOTAMIA

Our new exhibit, "Mesopotamia," is nearing completion. (It will be open to the public on June 9.) Much of the preparation involved the transformation of data contained in sometimes relatively obscure and complicated sources into simple, clear, up-to-date information. The work has led into a number of strange byways, and gives us the story of our silver rings.

They first came to my attention a few years ago when I was doing an inventory of the collection. There was a drawer of about a hundred silver coils, from the size of a quarter to some I called "bedsprings." These had been found in Iraq, presumably at the site of Khafajah, shortly before the site was excavated by the Institute. They were purchased by Henri Frankfort and accessioned by the Museum as jewelry. It was obvious to me that they formed a group—they were made in standard sizes and were of similar manufacture. It was equally obvious to me that they were not jewelry. The small rings were too large for fingers and too small for arms. The large ones were too unwieldy to wear. I suspected that they might be some sort of money—that one might cut off from a ring whatever amount might be needed for a given purchase.

I mentioned the rings to several people over the years hoping to stir up interest in them or to spur research into the problem. In 1973 Marvin Powell, an Assyriologist who teaches at Northern Illinois Uni-

versity, spent some weeks at the Museum studying the hundreds of Mesopotamian weights in the collection in connection with work he was doing on Mesopotamian metrology. When I told him about the coils he promised to return and examine them some day.

Several years passed and we began work on the Mesopotamian exhibit. I had to face the problem of the coils again. They were interesting. After cleaning by Barbara Hall, they were rather spectacular. What could be done with them? I decided to play it safe and put them in the dress and ornament exhibit labelled "bracelets".

Then Marvin Powell returned and became interested in the coils. First he weighed them to see whether they fell within the Mesopotamian weight standards. One of the large ones weighed a mina (about a pound), one weighed about a half mina, and many of the smaller ones weighed about three shekels. After digesting his data, Dr. Powell decided that the coils did not fall satisfactorily into the standard weight system—there was more variation than is found among weights. When we examined the rings closely we found additional evidence that the coils were not functional jewelry—some coils ended in wire which had been crudely twisted, hammered, or cut off, leaving a jagged protruding end. Some coils had small bits of other coils clipped around them. If the coils could be considered money, these small bits could be called "change!"

Marvin Powell went off for several weeks to investigate the references in texts to the Akkadian term Šewirum (Sumerian HAR), a term usually translated "ring" and generally thought to refer to jewelry. Piotr Steinkeller of the Institute pointed out a number of uses of these terms in texts. (In the meantime, I surreptitiously took the silver coils out of the exhibit storage unit labelled "dress and ornament" and put them into the one labelled "economy.")

This week the result of Dr. Powell's work arrived on my desk: a manuscript titled "A Contribution to the History of Money in Mesopotamia Prior to the Invention of Coinage." He has shown from philological evidence that beginning in the Akkadian period (about 2300 B.C.) silver changed hands in Mesopotamia primarily in the form of coils. The actual value of a ring was established by its weight.

One of the texts which has given him important information about the coils is a mathematical problem text:

"I have deducted 1/7 of one silver HAR and 1/11 of another silver HAR. Now let that which you have cut off equal one shekel. Let the silver HAR go up or down so that they are equal."

I find this problem a bit difficult, but I'm willing to trust Marvin when he says that: "The problem itself is relatively simple, requiring the solution of a set of equations in two variables." In order to solve the problem correctly, however, it seems that one must assume that it is formulated in terms of eighths of a shekel. In later periods the term used for 1/8 shekel, *bitqu*, means "a cutting." On the basis of this and the mathematical problem above, Dr. Powell suggests that "from the late Old Babylonian period on, silver coils may have been manufactured in gauges corresponding to multiples of eighths of a shekel, and perhaps in other gauges as well."

He is interested in the terms *ginnu*, which seems to refer to a mark placed on silver, and *nubbutu*, which seems to mean "cut off." He suggests that these terms in Late Babylonian times refer to some type of coinage deriving originally from pieces of silver cut from rings.

When our exhibit opens in a few weeks, the silver rings will appear, along with the information provided by Marvin Powell, in "Mesopotamian Economy." Instead of a simplified edition of material culled from long-published but obscure sources, our exhibit will here present material so new that it has not appeared in any printed form except this note.

Judith A. Franke
Acting Curator, Oriental Institute Museum

VISIT IRAN

A tour, open to members only, of the archeological sites and treasures of Iran will be sponsored by the Oriental Institute. The tour will depart September 30 and return October 18, 1977. The tour will include not only the well-known sites of ancient Persia such as Persepolis but also the famous centers of the Islamic period such as Shiraz and Isfahan. Further information including price is being sent in a separate notice.

NEWS FROM THE SUQ

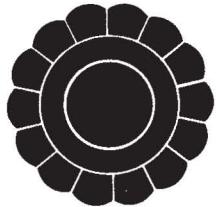
We hope you'll stop in the Suq when you visit the Museum's new exhibits. We have quite a number of new items, many pertaining to Egypt. We have an increased selection of mummy bead pieces, ranging from \$15 to \$250. There is also a new line of Egyptian reproductions in sterling and brass, including the cartouche of Tutankhamun as a pendant, earring, ring, or cuff link. We also have some beautiful new necklaces and earrings from Afghanistan, Iran, and Egypt, including lapis lazuli, amber, and mother-of-pearl.

We have had reproduced about 15 objects from the Museum's collections, many of them Egyptian objects. These are brand new sculptural reproductions and we hope to have them ready soon for sale in the Suq.

In addition to our Egyptian wrapping paper, postcards, and note cards we also have some new posters and a lovely coloring and text book for the children, *Tutankh-amun and His Friends*, which sells for \$2.50. Other new books include the exhibition catalog, *Treasures of Tutankhamun*, @ \$6.50; *Wonderful Things, The Discovery of the Tomb of Tutankhamun*, @ \$3.95; *Tutankhamun's Jewels*, @ \$3.95; *Treasures of Tutankhamun*, by I. E. S. Edwards, @ \$5.95; *Tutankhamun*, by Christine Desroches-Noblecourt, @ \$7.95; *Tutankhamun, The Last Journey*, by Wm. MacQuitty, @ \$4.95.

The shop has a new appearance for it has been repainted and the displays have all been redecorated. With so many changes and new items we're sure you'll find something of interest! Do stop by and say hello.

The Suq Staff



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