

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES

JAMES A. TEIT

JAMES A. TEIT, well known to anthropologists through his researches among the Indians of the interior of British Columbia, died after a long illness on October 30, 1922.

James Teit was born on the Shetland Islands. As a young man he came to Canada and finally settled at Spence's Bridge, British Columbia. There he lived near a village of the Thompson Indians and became thoroughly conversant with their language and customs. He took a deep human interest in their affairs and was, in the best sense of the word, a friend and adviser of the Indians.

In 1895, on one of my trips to British Columbia, it was my good fortune to make his acquaintance, and our joint labors extended from that time until his death. He also became a valued collaborator of the Geological Survey of Canada. He collected various data on the natural history and ethnology of British Columbia, and his collections are almost the only ones that give us a picture of the life of the Indians of that region. They are to be found in the museums of Ottawa, New York, and Chicago.

The great value of Teit's contributions to ethnology is due to his painstaking accuracy, his intimate acquaintance with the Indians, and his ability to converse with them in their own tongue. He spoke fluently the Thompson language and conversed easily with the Shuswap and also with the Lillooet. Hence his descriptions of these tribes are full and accurate. Practically our whole knowledge of the material culture, social organization, customs, beliefs and tales of the Salish tribes of the interior of British Columbia is based on his work.

In 1902 and the following years Teit travelled as guide with a number of gentlemen, including Mr. Homer E. Sargent, whose interest in the Indians was stimulated by Teit's accounts and the opportunities he gave to see native life. Mr. Sargent enabled Teit to carry through a very extended study of the distribution of the dialects of the Salish language and also of the adjacent Athapascan group. This work led later on to an investigation of the Tahltan for

the Geological Survey of Canada. Teit's map of the early distribution of tribes in British Columbia, Montana, Idaho and Washington, a work that still awaits publication, is fundamental for our knowledge of these regions. At the request of Mr. Sargent, and with the assistance of Dr. H. Haeberlin, he made a thorough study of Salish basketry, which is also still awaiting publication. His last work was a comprehensive description of the ethno-botany and ethno-geography of the interior of British Columbia. These studies were still incomplete at the time of his death.

While he was carrying on all these researches he became more and more interested in the difficulties against which the Indians have to contend, and his warm sympathy for their suffering led him to undertake the organization of the Indian tribes into an association for the protection of their rights. He acted as secretary of the organization which comprised all the tribes of British Columbia, and which has become a potent factor in determining the relations between the Canadian Government and the Indian tribes. Unceasingly he labored for their welfare and subordinated all other interests, scientific as well as personal, to this work, which he came to consider the most important task of his life. When I saw him last, a few weeks before his death, he was hoping to see his work for the Indians crowned with early success, and spoke of his plans to turn again to his ethnographical studies. Truly in him the Indians have lost their most faithful friend. Those who knew him will always remember him as a man of sterling worth. Anthropologists will always regret that it was not given to him to complete his valuable researches. There is nobody equipped as he was and able to complete this task.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF JAMES A. TEIT

- Traditions of the Thompson River Indians of British Columbia. (Memoirs of the American Folk-Lore Society, vol. vi, 137 pages, 1898.)
The Thompson Indians of British Columbia. (Publications of the Jesup North Pacific Expedition [American Museum of Natural History], 1900, vol. i, part 4, pp. 163-392.)
The Lillooet. (Ibid., 1906. vol. ii, part 5, pp. 193-300.)
The Shuswap. (Ibid., 1909. vol. ii, part 7, pp. 443-789.)
Mythology of the Thompson Indians. (Ibid., 1912, vol. viii, part 2, pp. 199-416.)
Two Tahltan Traditions. (Journal of American Folk-Lore, 1909, vol. 22, pp. 314-318.)
Traditions of the Lillooet Indians of British Columbia. (Ibid., 1912, vol. 25, pp. 287-371.)

Tahltan Tales. (Ibid., vol. 32, 1919, pp. 198-250; vol. 34, pp. 223-253; vol. 35, 1922, pp. 335-356.)

Two Plains Cree Tales. (Ibid., 1921, vol. 34, pp. 320-321.)

FRANZ BOAS

ROBERT W. WILLSON

It is with deep regret that we record the death, on November 1, 1922, of Robert W. Willson, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at Harvard University. For the last ten years of his life Professor Willson had been much interested in the investigation of the astronomical features of the Maya Codices, more especially the Dresden manuscript, and devoted a large part of his time to this study. He made valuable suggestions to students in this field and, fortunately, he has left much of his data practically ready for publication. These results will be brought out as a paper of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.

The following letter regarding Professor Willson has been received by the Editor. From what has just been said it is seen that the writer's fears for Professor Willson's literary remains are, fortunately, not entirely justified.

Editor of the *American Anthropologist*:

May I be permitted to express a few words of appreciation of the late Professor Robert W. Willson of Harvard, because, during the last few years, for a time all too brief, I had the good fortune to visit him whenever I passed through Cambridge, and to discuss the Maya astronomy in which we were both intensely interested, he from the viewpoint of mathematics and exact science, I from the less definite viewpoint of symbolism. I can never forget his kindly, broad, tolerant spirit, a spirit which I believe to be characteristic of the real Harvard, seeking truth in every quarter, and glad to welcome it from any, whether or not it agreed with his own conclusions, striving always to help the student without thought of selfish prestige.

He made my visits a delight which will never pass out of my memory. He found in the Dresden codex, to which he devoted his attention, an astrology of lucky and unlucky days for the populace but an ephemeris of wonderfully accurate calculations of planetary positions, eclipses, solstices and equinoxes, which it is most unfortunate for Maya science that he did not live to complete and publish. It is certainly to be hoped that some astronomer will carry forward the work which he has now laid down and give to students of the remarkable Maya culture the benefit of his researches. But it is for the man, even more than for his work, that I wish to express my deep admiration, and for his departure, my deep regret.

Very truly yours,

STANSBURY HAGAR

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE FIELD WORK OF THE AMERICAN SCHOOL IN FRANCE OF PREHISTORIC STUDIES FOR THE YEAR 1922

FOR the year's work from July 1, 1922 to July 1, 1923, three scholarships were offered of five thousand, three thousand, and two thousand francs respectively. There were over fifteen applicants representing nearly as many states of the Union. The successful applicants are Miss E. L. Bayles, Smith College 1921, of Cincinnati; Mr. Noguera, formerly at Harvard University, of Mexico City; and Mr. J. H. Goff, Oglethorpe University 1920, of Macon, Georgia.

Besides these three, three other students completed the summer's work, and one more spent a month in study in the field.

The work consisted in excavation at the station of La Quina in the forenoon, and in attendance at lectures in the laboratory of Dr. Henri Martin, near by, in the afternoon: of these, one was given by the Doctor himself, who accepted a position on the staff as lecturer in Palaeontology, and a second by the Director on Prehistoric Archaeology in general.

Numerous tests and examinations were required and a thesis was demanded on some special subject germane to the excavations.

The results of the excavations themselves may be said to be satisfactory. The trench (La Quina M.), continued in 1921 under Director MacCurdy, was extended and proved of somewhat varying richness.

The specimens found were predominantly Mousterian, but Acheulean tendencies were not lacking nor were those of Aurignacian quality (in the upper part). In addition, a small grotto (La Quina O) was excavated to a distance of eight meters; the somewhat scanty (though interesting) specimens found here proved almost exclusively Aurignacian.

Animal bones, particularly those of the horse, bison, and reindeer were abundant and (as is usually the case) a large number of teeth were preserved.

Including gifts and adjacent Neolithic findings a summary would present the following implements and fragments:

Implements of percussion...	75	Discs.....	7
Side-scrapers.....	179	Nuclei.....	81
Front-scrapers.....	43	Blades.....	21
Perforators.....	15	Points, other than Mousterian.....	31
Knives.....	66	Planes and "Rugines".....	15
Mousterian points.....	32	Miscellaneous.....	107

Excursions were made to Les Eyzies, Teyjat, a neighboring Merovingian cemetery, etc., and at the end of September the students undertook an excursion to the caves of Gargas, Mas d'Azil, Tuc d'Audubert, and Trois Frères in the Pyrenean region.

The winter's work will be undertaken by the three scholarship holders, and the others; the latter hope to remain in Paris as long as possible.

This report as well as the school itself would not have existed had it not been for the generosity and kindness of Dr. Henri Martin and his family.

In encouragement, in scientific assistance, and in hospitality they have added one more season of incomparable enthusiasm; the Director and the students are deeply appreciative of this, as well as of the kindness of M. Hubert of the Museum of Saint Germain, and of Mr. Passemard of Biarritz, who generously delivered lectures before the School on the Neolithic, Bronze, and Iron Ages, and on the Cavern of Isturitz respectively.

Several American travelers visited the school—among them were Professor Field of Brown University and three students in geology who passed a day at the excavations and in the laboratory.

CHARLES PEABODY,

Director

October, 1922

THE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER BULLETIN for December 1922 contains a "Report on the Work of the 1922 Season in the Piedra Parada Archaeological Field," by Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr. This expedition was under the joint auspices of the University of Denver and the State Historical and Natural History Society of Colorado, and was in continuation of the work of the preceding summer. The Director of the expedition was Mr. J. A. Jeancon, Curator of Archaeology and Ethnology at the State Museum, and the Assistant Director Mr. Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr., Instructor in the University of Denver. "The work of the summer of 1922," to quote from the Report, "was devoted to four sites, three of the pit-house type and the larger pueblo on the top of the Piedra Parada mesa. In addition to this Mr. Jeancon and Mr. Wagstaff made several reconnaissance trips to various parts of the surrounding territory for the purpose of locating ruins and making, as far as possible without excavation, a tentative comparison of their relation to those of the group on which

excavation was being conducted. The results of these trips will be included in the report of the entire summer's work which is to be issued at a later date." Some of the results of this work are thus stated: "From the facts at hand at the present time it is reasonably safe to conclude that the peoples who built the structures found along the Piedra River were to a great degree related to the other San Juan groups, who left as their monuments the great ruins at Aztec and the Chaco Canyon. . . . The work of the 1922 season also served to strengthen the tentative theory advanced by Mr. Jeancon to the effect that the area under consideration saw the complete cultural development of the inhabitants, from their earliest stages to the more advanced community-house culture with its attendant perfection in ceramics. Nothing was found to controvert the theory of house-type evolution as advanced in the report for 1921, and in fact the work of the last season would tend to strengthen this conclusion."

A GRAMMAR AND DICTIONARY of the Tarahumara language of Chihuahua, compiled by Rev. José Ferrero, S. J., was published in 1920 (232 pages) by the Jesuit Fathers under the title *Pequeña Gramática y Diccionario de la Lengua Tarahumara*, Mexico, Imprenta dirigida por J. Aguilar Vera, 7^a Ribera de San Cosme, 124. The dictionary portion is in Spanish-Tarahumara, and the Fathers are now desirous of publishing a second part in Tarahumara-Spanish. American students and collectors interested in procuring the work should address Rev. Fr. José Mier y Terán, Sisoguichic, Chihuahua, Mexico, who will be pleased to receive advance orders for the Tarahumara-Spanish part, which will be printed when the means afford.

A PEABODY MUSEUM expedition under the direction of Samuel J. Guernsey continued the investigations in the Marsh Pass region of northeastern Arizona during the summer of 1922. The second phase of the Basket Maker culture, first brought to light by the expedition of 1921, was studied and a large section on the lower Chin Lee was also investigated, new sites being mapped and data relating to the early Cliff Dweller Pueblo obtained. George Vaillant, a Graduate Student in the Department of Anthropology, accompanied the expedition as an Assistant.

A COMMITTEE has been formed to establish a Memorial to Benjamin Harrison, the village geologist and prehistoric archaeologist of

Ightham, Kent, who died in 1921. The first meeting of the Committee was held at the Royal Anthropological Institute in November, 1922, under the presidency of Lord Avebury. Donations will be received by the Treasurer, Mr. de Barri Crawshay, Rosefield, Sevenoaks (Kent).

THE MARQUIS OF CERRALBO, well known for his achievements in the field of prehistoric research in Spain, has died at the age of seventy-seven years.

At the thirty-eighth annual meeting of the Indiana Academy of Science, held at Indianapolis, Dec. 7 and 8, 1922, the following papers of interest to anthropologists were presented: Francis Galton, life and work, by Robert Hessler; The Palaeolithic Stone Age in Indiana, by S. Frank Balcom; The Archaeological Survey of Jefferson County, by Glenn Culbertson; The Southern Ute Indians of the Pine River Valley, Colorado, Indian Funerals, Twinkling Star (three papers by title), by Albert B. Reagan; Archaeology in Posey and Vanderburg Counties, by Andrew J. Bigney.

ON Jan. 1, 1922, the work of the new Swedish Institute for Race-Biology, established by vote of the Swedish Parliament on May 13, 1921, was inaugurated. The staff includes Dr. W. W. Krauss, formerly of Vienna in the capacity of Assistant Anthropologist.

THE diploma of doctor *honoris causa* of the University of Strasbourg has been conferred upon Sir James Frazer, the well-known writer on totemistic and other features of primitive culture.

As a result of the efforts of the Bureau of American Ethnology, President Harding has withdrawn from settlement three groups of prehistoric towers in southwestern Colorado and southeastern Utah. These are known as the ruins in Ruin Canyon, Holly Canyon, and Cool Spring House on Cajon Mesa. It is proposed that these groups be made a National Monument.

DR. ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS has been elected President of the American Ethnological Society of New York.

DR. ALEŠ HRDLIČKA, of the U. S. National Museum, is lecturing at the Postgraduate School of the American University, Washington, D. C., on "Human Variation."

DR. E. S. HANDY, Ethnologist, and MRS. WILLOMDEAN CHATTERTON HANDY, Associate in Polynesian folk ways of the Bishop Museum

staff, left Honolulu early in January to continue their researches in Polynesian native culture. After a short stay in New Zealand they will proceed to Tahiti, where their work for the present year will be centered—*Science*.

THE officers of Section H (Anthropology), of the A. A. A. S. elected at the Cambridge meeting are: Vice-President and Chairman (1923), E. A. Hooton, Harvard University; Secretary (1923-1924), R. J. Terry, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.; Member of Section Committee (1924-1926), R. B. Bean, University of Virginia.

ROBERT T. AITKEN AND JOHN F. G. STOKES, of the Bishop Museum, have returned to Honolulu after an absence of two years devoted to anthropological studies in connection with the Bayard Dominick Expedition. Their field of work included the islands of Rapa, Rurutu, Ravaivai and Tubuai of the Austral group. On his return journey to Papeete, several islands of the Tuamotu group were visited by Mr. Stokes.—*Science*.

FOLLOWING upon the Congress of Americanists at Rio Janeiro, Dr. Aleš Hrdlička, Curator of the Department of Physical Anthropology in the U. S. National Museum, visited the more important sites in central and western Europe where remains of ancient man have recently been found. At the invitation of the Minister of Education of the Czechoslovak Republic he also delivered a series of lectures on "Anthropology and man's evolution" at the universities of Prague, Brno (Brün), and Bratislava (Pressburg), and at the People's University of Plzeň (Pilsen).

IN connection with the Pueblo Bonito Expedition of the National Geographic Society, under the charge of Mr. Neil M. Judd, an attempt is to be made to fix approximate dates for the ruins in that area by means of sections or borings from the oldest living trees in the region, from similar sections from pine stumps and logs buried in the valley deposits, and from ceiling timbers exposed in the ruins.

PROF. A. M. TOZZER is Harvard Visiting Professor to Western Colleges for 1923. His appointments include, for the month of February, Knox College, Galesburg, Ill.; March, Colorado College; April, Pomona College, California.

THE formal opening of the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, New York City, took place on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 15, 1922.